

Bay Area Reporter

VOL. XXV No. 28 July 13, 1995

395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103



Photo: Phil Migliarese Jr.

Office antics: The staff at local Republican Party headquarters was none too pleased by ACT UP/SF's July 11 on-site demo at their Van Ness Ave. address.

ACT UP KOs GOP SF HQ

Gay Republican urges
prosecution 'to the full extent'

by Dennis Conkin

Four members of ACT UP/San Francisco were arrested Tuesday, July 11 and jailed on felony malicious mischief, burglary, and criminal conspiracy charges stemming from an afternoon protest at the San Francisco Republican Party headquarters.

Fifteen ACT UP/San Francisco members occupied the second story Van Ness Avenue party headquarters; burned and desecrated an American flag; hung effigies of Governor Pete Wilson, California

Attorney General Dan Lungren, and North Carolina Senator Jesse Helms from a balcony; and plastered red oil-based handprints over walls, windows, and office equipment.

Activists also threw faux AIDS money and handbills demanding reauthorization of the Ryan White Care Act.

Activists say that Helms is single-handedly stalling Congressional reauthorization of the act, which funds care for people with AIDS. Wilson and Lungren were targets because of their opposition to needle exchange, as well as their anti-gay positions regarding domestic partner-

Continued on page 21

Transgender Murdered in Oakland

by Kent Brandley

An Oakland murder victim discovered in the early morning hours of Monday, July 10 has been identified as Carmen Marie Montoya, a transgender who had lived for the past two years as a woman.

Montoya, who died after being hit in the face with a blunt object, was dressed in female clothing at the time of death. She was found at about 4 a.m. Monday in the parking lot of the Acorn Supermarket in West Oakland. Her cousin, Darnell Mikel, told the *Bay Area Reporter* Montoya had not been robbed.

According to the victim's friend Alvin Pickett, Montoya's name of record was Ronaldo Tontillas. She was 23 years old, and had lived in the Bay Area all her life.

Pickett, who told the *B.A.R.* he had once been Montoya's



Carmen Marie Montoya

roommate, said the victim worked as a waitress at the time of her death.

Pickett described Montoya as "flawless, [with] no male features whatsoever." He said she "had not had the full sex change yet," but lived a woman for "24/seven" - in other words, all day, every day. He said he last saw the 5' 7" 140-lb. beauty with her boyfriend at around 1:50 a.m. Monday.

"She was a really outgoing person, really sensitive," Pickett said. "She loved to dance and read and hang out, and she was very supportive of other people regardless of their sexuality, but she was particularly helpful to up-and-coming transgenders."

Police have called in at least one person for questioning in connection with the case, according to Mikel, but no suspect had been charged at presstime. ▼

Anyone with information on the crime is urged to call the Oakland Police department at (510) 238-3365.

Murder Suspect Just Left Gay Bar, Cops Say

by Dennis Conkin

A San Francisco man is in jail on murder charges after he shot a homeless beggar four times on Wednesday, July 5 in front of a Tenderloin district hotel.

As 35-year-old Scott Fredette entered the hotel shortly after 2 a.m. with a tourist he met at a neighborhood gay bar, the pair was approached by a boisterous panhandler asking for cash, the *Bay Area Reporter* has learned. Fredette refused, and an argument apparently ensued, during which the panhandler reportedly made several anti-gay comments.

Fredette, according to witness reports, pulled out a chrome .357 revolver with a long barrel and shot the panhandler four times.

"His hands were in the air in the universal symbol of surrender," veteran homicide inspector Napoleon Hendrix told the *B.A.R.*

Fredette fled the area, and his unidentified companion who witnessed the murder was detained in the area until police arrived. The tourist told the responding officers he knew where Fredette lived, because the pair had briefly stopped at the residence after leaving the bar.

He accompanied police to the suspect's residence in the area, where Fredette was arrested on the charges.

The tourist said he did not know that Fredette was carrying a weapon.

The victim has been identified by the San Francisco Medical Examiner's Office as 31-year-old Harold Cummings.

Fredette faces life imprisonment without the possibility of parole if convicted on homicide charges. He will appear in court on Thursday, July 13 for a date to set a preliminary hearing, according to Assistant District Attorney Peter Cling, who is prosecuting the case. ▼

Fed Employees Can Gain from Insurance Open Season

...But July 21 deadline is only two weeks away

by Kent Brandley

For Federal workers with AIDS or other life threatening illness, prompt action during the next two weeks might determine whether they will die in poverty or with the dignity a substantial money cushion can afford.

U.S. government employees with life-threatening illness can improve their financial condition by tens of thousands of dollars if they are fast Feddies and take advantage of a special open season that ends July 21, says Tom McCormack of Affording Care, Inc., a national non-profit volunteer organization based in Washington D.C.

An estimated one third of unmarried Federal employees do not yet have life insurance. For them, this open period is especially important.

In a brief interview with the *B.A.R.*, McCormack said the present open season allows employees who are not insured to enroll in life insurance policies - with face values up to slightly over their annual salary - with no physical examination or health questionnaire. This simple step allows them to take advantage of a new "accelerated benefit" option, which entitles those with a life expectancy of less than nine months to collect the amount while they are alive.

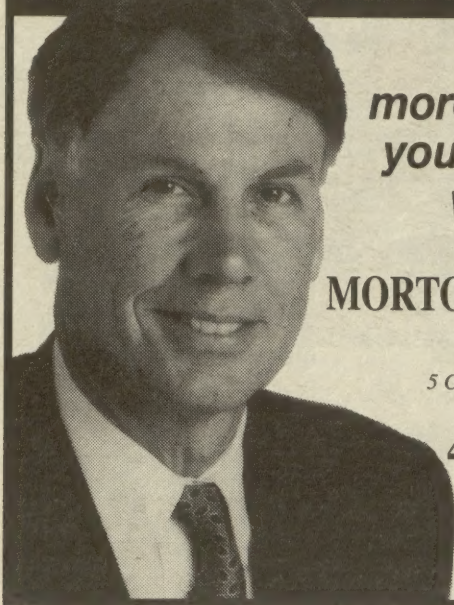
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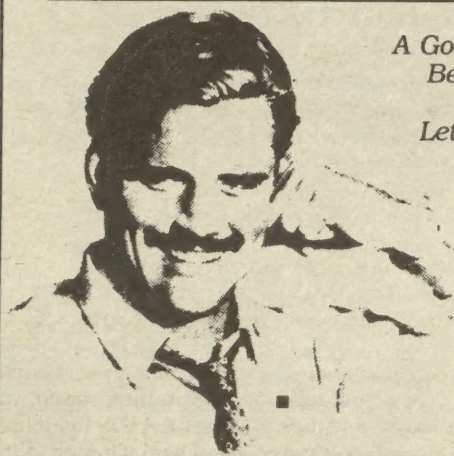
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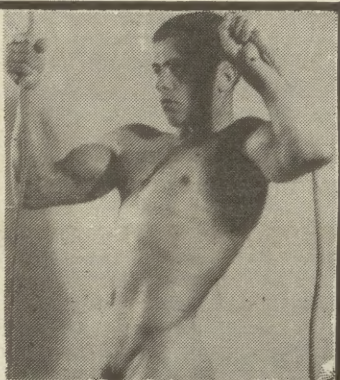
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COMMUNITY NEWS



Photo: Stranger

Demonstrators at Chowchilla Prison spoke out July 8 against the healthcare conditions there and at the new prison nearby dubbed "deathtrap number two" by inmates.

Chowchilla Demo Calls For Decent Medical Treatment

by Kent Brandley

More than 100 people peacefully demonstrated at Chowchilla Prison last Saturday, July 8, demanding improved healthcare for female inmates at the facility and showing support for the class action lawsuit filed by women prisoners April 4. The suit says medical care at the women's prison is "life threatening."

"The California Department of Corrections accuses us of demanding 'Cadillac Care,'" prisoner plaintiff Marcia Bunney told the crowd. "We are speaking out for those among us in pain; for those who are terminally ill and in terror of an abysmally lonely death in prison; for those of us who have watched friends die for lack of medical attention, care, and treatment; for those who have parole dates and want to leave prison whole; for those who as yet have no date, and want to survive to receive one; for those who will never leave, but want to live productive lives in this,

our community.

"We are speaking out now," she said. "We are speaking out as the California Department of Corrections has driven us to do, in fear for our health and our lives — in court."

A statement from Charisse Shumate, another prisoner plaintiff still incarcerated at Chowchilla, said inmates were locked inside rooms with no cool air, with temperatures past 90 degrees. "Please help us not to give up hope," she asked, and promised, "My voice shall roar for quality medical care for all inmates."

Demonstrators also picketed in front of newly-constructed Valley State Prison for women across the road from Chowchilla Prison. The new prison has no medical facilities, according to Judy Greenspan, project director of the HIV/AIDS in Prison Project of Catholic Charities of the East Bay.

Speakers at the rally called it "deathtrap number two." ▼

'A Cowardly Approach to AIDS Education' Model Inmate Pulled as Waiter Because of HIV Status

by Kent Brandley

David Smee, a prisoner at San Francisco's new County Jail No. 8 downtown, has alleged that he was removed as a waiter serving meals to other inmates at the "Glamour Slammer" because it was revealed he is HIV-positive. Smee, who identified himself to the B.A.R. as a 27-year-old gay man who has been incarcerated since February 12 as a result of domestic violence charges, said that after a "Deputy O'Neill" learned of his HIV status, he has gradually been relieved of his duties.

On June 24, Smee said, he was "taken off breakfast serving." On June 30 he was taken off all meals. And on July 2 he was told he couldn't even serve hot water because of his HIV status.

Eileen Hirst, chief of staff for the San Francisco Sheriff's Department, told the B.A.R. the situation might be similar to that of a prisoner who had chicken pox and recovered. It is not so much discrimination against the prison-

er/waiter, she said, as it is the fact that "it causes other prisoners to become agitated." Ignorance on the part of prisoners concerning HIV transmission is the problem, she indicated.

Smee disagrees with the policy and says it doesn't make sense.

Judy Greenspan, director of the HIV/AIDS in Prison Project of Catholic Charities of the East Bay, strongly backs Smee's contention. "Unfortunately, most prisoners who are HIV-positive, when their status is known, are removed from jobs in the kitchen as well as in the infirmary," Greenspan told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "This is routinely done by prison administrators, because of what they know to be ignorance and misperception on the part of prisoners about AIDS."

"It is an absolutely cowardly approach to AIDS education to reinforce the stigma and discrimination around the disease," she said. "I'm not surprised that this happens — but I am upset and concerned because the San Francisco jail administrators purport to be more enlightened than the rest of

the country.

"Prisoners with HIV have every right to work in the kitchen, to serve meals and to have access to the same jobs that non-HIV-positive prisoners have. I would urge people to write letters to Sheriff [Michael] Hennessey complaining of this policy."

Smee said he hasn't manifested any illness in any way and is considered a model prisoner. He said other deputies consider his work very reliable, and indicated that deputies are divided over the policy.

A report from the National Commission on AIDS, prepared during the Reagan/Bush years, is emphatic on the matter. It said prisoners with HIV disease should be permitted to participate in all prison positions and jobs, including food service. ▼

Concerned letters may be sent to San Francisco Sheriff Mike Hennessey, 633 Folsom Street, Room 200, San Francisco, CA, 94107. Tell him what you think of this policy.

SJSU Delta Lambda Phi To Host National Gay Frat Confab

by Kent Brandley

There'll be a hot time in San Jose next week as Delta Lambda Phi, America's only national gay fraternity, gathers there for its annual conference.

More than 100 fraternity members from colleges along the coast and across the nation will assemble at San Jose State University for business and educational seminars, as well as some intriguing social events.

SJSU's Omicron Chapter of Delta Lambda Phi will host the sixth annual national conven-

tion, the theme of which is "Interactive Pride."

Scheduled speakers include California Assembly candidate Ken Yeager, Wiggys Sivertsen, Leslee Hamilton, and Graylin Thornton.

Fraternity members can be found at Greg's Ballroom on Thursday, July 20; Raging Waters July 21; Great America July 24; and San Gregorio July 25. ▼

Contact Al Perez at (415) 334-9170 for more information.

Illegal Testing Alleged, \$1M Sought, by HIV+ City Worker

by Dennis Conkin

A gay city worker who says that his blood was tested for HIV without his permission by the San Francisco Medical Examiner's office is seeking \$1 million in compensatory damages, according to a lawsuit filed this week in Superior Court.

John Overton, a former management assistant who transferred to the coroner's office in May 1994, charges that he was illegally tested for HIV.

According to attorney Paul Wotman, the unauthorized test was conducted less than a month after Overton told fellow staffers that his lover had died a year earlier of the disease.

"Shortly thereafter, on July 8, 1994, the Medical Examiner's Office requested that my client undergo a blood draw, allegedly to test for hepatitis," Wotman told the *B.A.R.*

Overton learned that his blood was be subjected to an HIV test just as a lab technician for the coroner was about to draw his blood, Wotman said.

"Mr. Overton's supervisor, Herb Hawley, who ordered Overton to undergo the hepatitis test, told the technician to also do an HIV test without my client's permission," Wotman said.

Hawley declined to comment on the allegations except to say that the matter had been turned over to City Attorney Louise Renne's office for comment.

Medical Examiner Boyd Stevens and the City and County of San Francisco are also named with Hawley as defendants in the lawsuit.

HIV+ results left on desk

Wotman also charges that his client learned he was HIV-positive when the test results paperwork was left on his desk, open to public view.

"A few months later, Mr. Overton was told his

job performance was unsatisfactory, and he was terminated," Wotman said.

The reasons for the discharge by the coroner "are a pretext," Wotman says.

Overton's lawsuit alleges that his constitutional rights to protection from unlawful search and seizure were violated because of the forced HIV test. It also alleges that Overton's rights to privacy under the California constitution were also violated.



Attorney
Paul Wotman

Overton was never in any danger of contracting the virus because he never worked around dead bodies, Wotman said.

"This is absolutely outrageous. Did they assume that he could transmit HIV by handling the possessions of someone who was deceased? That's not how you transmit HIV," Wotman told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "How could this happen in the City and County of San Francisco?"

Derek Gordon, a spokesman for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, said, "It's like the White House and the rubber gloves incident. If what is alleged is true, then there seems to have been some misjudgment. HIV infection is not casually transmitted by handling the possessions of people, whether those people are dead or alive."

The city has not yet filed an answer to the lawsuit, Wotman said. ▼



Photo: Rick Gerharter

AIDS Walk San Francisco '95 hopes to better last year's \$2.8 million tally.

Biggest-Ever AIDS Walk Planned for this Sunday

by Kent Brandley

For the ninth year running – or, more accurately, walking – AIDS Walk San Francisco will send city residents through Golden Gate Park to raise money. The familiar walk-a-thon will begin at 9:30 a.m. this Sunday, July 16 and, after a winding 10-kilometer (6.2 mile) route, will end where it began, at the Golden Gate's Sharon Meadow.

Those who get there a bit early can participate in aerobic and stretching warm-ups led by Nike's Culture Shock Dance Troupe. At 9:50, *Tales of the City* author Armistead Maupin will host opening ceremonies featuring Holly Near and Tony Award nominee Brian Green singing – you guessed it – "You'll Never Walk Alone." A post-walk concert from 12:30 to 2:15 p.m. will feature Me Jane, Extasy, Robby Krieger Organization, and MotorDude Zydeco.

Organizers hope for a ten percent increase over last year's impressive crowd of 18,000 participants, and final tally of \$2.8 million raised, to make it Northern California's largest and most successful AIDS fundraiser. So far, according to AIDS Foundation spokesman Derek Gordon, 675 teams are registered.

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation and 30 other Bay Area AIDS service organizations are the beneficiaries of the AIDS Walk.

Individuals and corporate teams can still register by calling (415) 392-WALK.

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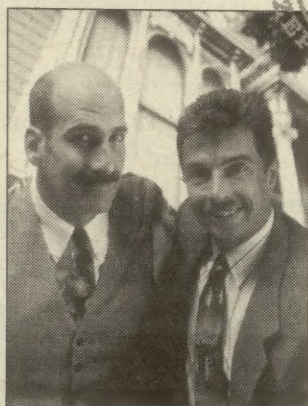
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COMMUNITY NEWS

A Gay First

Members of the Malaysian Gay and Lesbian Club gathered July 8 for their monthly potluck. Believed to be the first gay and lesbian Malaysian group in the U.S., it has only been meeting since March 1995. In addition to the potlucks, other activities include a newsletter, hikes and various social events. For more information call (415) 789-8042.

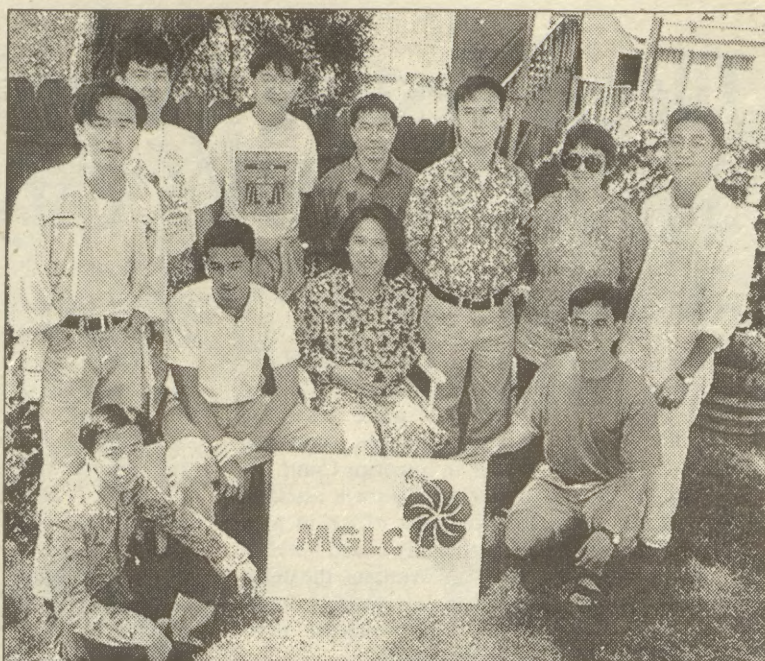


Photo: Rick Gerharter

O'Shea Avoids Molest Charges

by Dennis Conkin

Felony child sexual abuse charges filed last year against a San Francisco Roman Catholic priest were dismissed by a Superior Court judge on Monday July 10, because a six-year statute of limitations has expired.

The charges were dismissed by Superior Court Judge Phillip Moscone on behalf of attorneys for Monsignor Patrick O'Shea, who was charged last year with 16 counts of child molestation involving nine pre-teen and teenaged boys over the 24-year period from 1964 to 1980.

O'Shea, 62, is the onetime pastor of St. Cecilia's Roman Catholic Church in the Sunset

District. The boys have alleged he sexually abused them after getting them drunk on overnight camping trips to Napa County's Lake Berryessa.

O'Shea once headed a local Archdiocese ministry to the lesbian and gay community, as well as the local branch of the church's Society for the Propagation of Faith mission ministry. He and another priest remain under investigation in connection with charges of embezzlement, stemming from the loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars from the San Francisco SPF office.

Retroactive application denied

The sexual abuse charges were

dropped after the District Attorney tried to have a 1988 state law, which extends the statute of limitations in cases involving minors, applied retroactively.

A state Appeals Court rejected the effort, ruling that applying criminal laws retroactively was unconstitutional.

O'Shea was relieved of his pastoral functions in the wake of an internal Archdiocese investigation into the sex abuse charges, and has been sued by one of his victims.

Civil lawsuits, charging that local Roman Catholic church leaders knew about and covered up the activities of O'Shea and other pedophile priests in the Archdiocese, are pending. ▼

Last Chance for Alameda To Head Off Gay Boycott

by Mary Ann Swissler

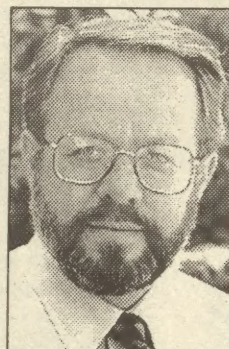
A biotechnology manufacturer who has threatened to launch a nationwide negative public relations campaign against the city of Alameda, stemming from its refusal to pass a Gay Pride Month proclamation this year, has told the B.A.R. he will give the East Bay community's city council until the end of this week to agree on issuing an alternative one.

Alameda resident Morten Wellhaven of Scientific Instruments, Inc., who pulled \$1.25 million in corporate banking from Alameda banks in June, immediately after the Gay Pride Month proclamation failed to receive enough council support to be voted on, said he will meet with Mayor Ralph Appezatto tomorrow in hopes of resolving the matter. If a resolution is not forthcoming, Wellhaven said, he will mail 1,900 letters to his clients across the country, calling the city homophobic and urging those businesses to boycott it. He also intends to cancel a large donation of scientific equipment to Alameda high schools he had intended to make through a new gay men's group, The Gay Islanders, he said.

"I don't want to drag it out anymore," he said. "I don't want them to string us along anymore."

Ironically, he acknowledged, both The Gay Islanders and the political and public education group Out on the Island have blossomed in the wake of the city's refusal to grant the proclamation.

It's too early to gauge the impact of a second boycott of Alameda launched by Marin businesswoman Deborah Grossberg. The owner of the Pt. Richmond-based Bilcat T-shirt company said of the city, "These people are not going to make public policy with my tax dollars."



Morten Wellhaven

Robert Bray as a guest speaker. Admission is on a sliding scale from \$15 to \$50. Call (510) 521-6944 for more information. ▼

Alameda County Cuts \$11M From Medical Budget

by Mary Ann Swissler

The best thing that can be said about the \$1.1 billion Alameda County budget passed June 29, and the \$11 million in medical cuts it represents, is that it could have been worse.

Public health nurses, once slated for more than \$2 million in cuts, were reduced by "only" \$229,000 at the budget session.

The Alameda County AIDS Office will lose \$187,000; while Director Eugene Richards said he does not relish absorbing that figure into HIV/AIDS programs, he said its impact will be easier to sustain than the \$600,000 that was originally proposed.

West Oakland Health Center Executive Director Brenda Crawford, whose agency lost \$700,000, said the cuts would be

felt most in HIV prevention and homeless programs.

Some \$900,000 in drug and alcohol rehabilitation and public education programs were also cut, according to Supervisor Keith Carson, who supplied the only vote against the budget. A new round of cuts might hit the county again in August, when the state budget becomes final, he said. ▼

Witherspoon Fights Demand To Repay Causey Case Fee

by Dennis Conkin

A motion will be heard in the Probate Department of Superior Court on Tuesday, July 18, seeking to force a local gay attorney to personally pay \$75,000 in costs and attorney's fees stemming from a settled lawsuit brought against the trustee of an estate of a man who died of AIDS.

The lawsuit alleged fiduciary abuse of a person with AIDS by the trustee of the estate of the man's late lover.

Attorneys for the estate of the late Mark Wilson seek the sanctions against gay attorney Gerald S. Witherspoon of the Law Offices of Witherspoon and Siracusa, who represented the trustee.

In the motion filed before Probate Judge Isabella Grant, attorneys Amanda Ebey and Daniel Murphy allege that Witherspoon engaged in "bad faith actions and tactics," lied, and engaged in other "unethical conduct" in his representation of the executor of the estate of the late Phillip Causey, who died of AIDS in 1992. Wilson was the late Causey's lover.

In an extraordinary 25-page answer to the motion filed with the court on Monday, July 10 Witherspoon called the charges an "unprecedented attack" on his integrity as an attorney - and said the amount of money sought is a "threat to the continued existence" of his law firm.

An out-of-court settlement was reached last May in the lawsuit against the estate's trustee, James Causey, who apologized for his conduct related to the handling of the trust in an open letter to the gay community published in the May 18 issue of the *Bay Area Reporter*.

The open letter was only part of the out-of-court settlement with Causey. Although details of the settlement are confidential, settlement demands included the stipulation that Causey return all funds he charged the estate and pay a cash settlement of \$450,000.

Settlement demands also included a stipulation that Witherspoon return all fees charged and paid in connection with the case.

No respect for dying wishes

Key parts of the civil litigation against Causey's handling of the estate included charges that Causey never had any intention of honoring his brother's wishes in administering the estate - and when he received the funds of the \$400,000 estate, he squeezed Wilson out and liquidated all the assets.

One of Causey's defenses for his actions was that he didn't realize that Wilson was ill, despite a December 1992 letter from Witherspoon that discussed legal strategies to limit Wilson's monthly rent subsidy - required by the terms of the estate - after Causey liquidated the apartment building Wilson lived in.

The lawsuit was settled shortly after that letter, and several other documents, were ordered turned over to Wilson's attorneys as evidence.

In the letter, Witherspoon said efforts to reduce benefits to Wilson would be hindered if the court were aware of his actual life expectancy, even though Witherspoon had used an actuarial table for a healthy 36-year-old as the basis for reducing Wilson's payments from the trust, despite Wilson's worsening AIDS.

"On the latter issue it would complicate our case if he were forthcoming with the Court regarding his health status and

probable life expectancy," Witherspoon advised Causey.

Witherspoon's attorney, Mary Gemma O'Keeffe, said in her brief answering the charges that she "was astonished" that a Superior Court discovery commissioner ruled the letter was not protected by the attorney/client privilege and ordered it turned over to Wilson's attorneys.

The purpose of the letter was actually to "attempt to convince Causey to make smaller reduction in Wilson's housing benefit than Causey wanted," according to Gemma; she contends Witherspoon "raised suspicions" about Wilson's health status and warned Causey about the risks he faced if Wilson was sick.

'A gently phrased threat'

But, Ebey and Murphy charge, the letter also discusses a way to coerce Wilson into accepting the reduction of benefits: they allege that Witherspoon "boldly advised his client to threaten the AIDS-stricken beneficiary" that a long unpaid \$20,000 family debt could

be charged against the estate if Wilson didn't consent to a plan to save the trust's capital.

"There is one issue I did not raise in the present draft which you might want to consider, either in this context or otherwise," Witherspoon wrote Causey. "It would be a gently phrased threat that if Mark were not acquiescent in a plan to preserve trust capital to the extent possible, the family members to whom Phillip was indebted, as you mentioned on the phone, would be included to make a creditor claim against the trust for repayment of the outstanding indebtedness. (Such a claim would require court action, so far as I can see: but it would be risky for you, as Trustee, to pay the claim unless there is some reasonable documentation to support it)."

Witherspoon did not invent the debt and believed it to be unenforceable, and there are no grounds for Ebey and Murphy's "grave allegations" that Witherspoon misled the court, Gemma argued.

In fact, according to

Continued on page 13

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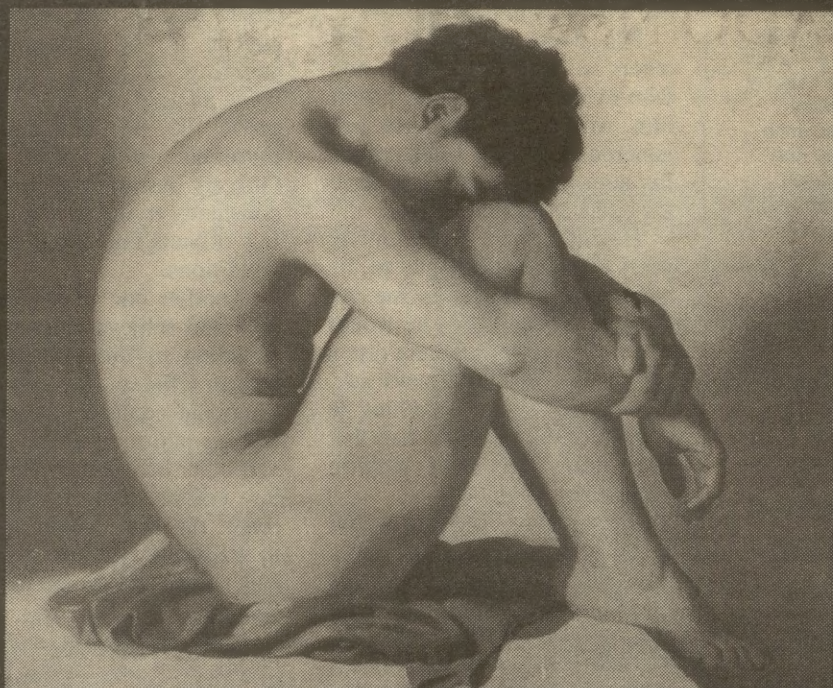


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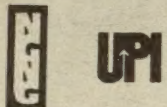
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CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Diannne Aaronson, John Antalek, Rene M. Astudillo, Noreen C. Barnes, Erin Blackwell, John Blanco, Angela Bocage, Kate Bornstein, Michael C. Botkin, Nancy Boutilier, Philip Campbell, Jim Coughenour, M.R. Covino, Tim Farrell, Michael Flanagan, Mark Freeman, Anthony N. Hauser, Pete Hodgdon, Chad Jones, John F. Karr, Jeffery Kennedy, I.A. Kisselman, Karl Bruce Knapper, Ron Lazar, Elliott Linwood, Jason Lorber, Daniel Mangin, Mr. Marcus, Daniel Medynski, Jerry Metzker, Karen O'camb, Deborah Peifer, Jeremy Quittner, Mary Richards, Bob Roehr, John Ross, Doug Seto, Marv. Shaw, Mary Ann Swisler, Rick Thoman, Paul Thomason, Susanna Trnka, Dick Walters, Lauren Ward

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OPEN FORUM

Vol. XXV No. 28 • July 13, 1995

Next Issue Out: July 20

Next Deadline: July 14

EDITORIAL



Photo: Mr. Marcus

Sen. Dianne Feinstein and the late Ray Benson in 1991.

A Eulogy

by Bob Ross,
Publisher, Bay Area Reporter

How does one say good-bye to a friend such as Ray Benson? One doesn't, for people like Ray are very rare individuals and touch our lives in a myriad of ways.

His deep compassion for others is legendary, and no one who ever came in contact with him will forget him. He has generously given a small part of his aura to all of us who were fortunate to call him friend.

Having known Ray as many years as I was privileged to, he never ceased to amaze me. As ill as he was at times he would call to see how someone else's health was doing. Always asking if there wasn't something he could do for them. He had that marvelous knack of making others feel better.

To say Ray liked life would be an understatement, he had a zest and lust for life like no one else I have ever met. I had many opportunities to travel with him and the glow in his eyes as we visited different countries and met different cultures was extraordinary. There were never enough hours in a day for him to do all he wanted. If you didn't feel good, tough luck. Ray would say we wouldn't be coming back this way, so we had to do and see everything while we were there; nothing was so insignificant that we couldn't get some pleasure from it.

No matter where he was, he was always helping others: to build a home, remodel some room, or just get out in your yard and help weed.

As for the true joy in his life, the police force, Ray was indefatigable. He would put in his shift during the day and spent hours in the evening attending various community meetings. He was especially proud of his work with children. He was a member of the Delinquency Prevention Commission, and was its president for a good number of years. He always

said this was an important group: if you could save just one child from a life of crime the whole thing was worthwhile.

As an openly gay police officer, from the beginning he became a role model — although he would deny this — to show others that he was an equal to anyone in the department. If anything, it made him work twice as hard as anyone else to prove it. He became very involved with the Police Officers Association and was constantly trying to help his fellow officers find better working conditions.

Another one of his greatest joys and achievements was the founding of the Golden State Police Officers Association, a statewide coalition of gay and lesbian police officers, sheriffs and other officials connected to law enforcement. I will never forget the first couple of "Pigs in Paradise" parties given by Ray and others in Sonoma County.

I am discussing a man, a friend, who has surely left his fine mark on a community that has so few highs in it these days. Ray was a man who always had a smile on his face, even at the end of this phase of his life's journey.

Ray never discussed death or dying as an end, it was just a passing: a passing on to some higher plane in the mystery called life. I hope that he has found peace for his pain-racked body, and there is no doubt in my mind that he is somewhere else organizing the troops in one way or another.

To me, Ray Benson will never truly pass, he has left me so many kindnesses and memories that they have become part of my own life. I will go on asking him for advice, or asking myself how Ray would do it.

I have been truly fortunate to have known Ray Benson and to have been able to call him friend.

Ray, I know you will continue on life's journey, and I know we will meet once again. ▼

GUEST OPINION

Grade School Insult

by Ben Carlson
Community Relations Director
Mobilization Against AIDS

Senator Jesse Helms's grade school insult of people with AIDS (it's the result of "deliberate, disgusting, revolting conduct"), printed last week in the *New York Times* and quickly recycled in other print and broadcast media, would be easier to dismiss if not for the fact that he presents it as a justification for defunding AIDS treatment and research programs.

Human compassion is a valid and sufficient defense for those programs, but with Helms and his ilk we might as well point straight to the bottom line: if the Ryan White CARE Act, the nation's largest AIDS funding program, were to be eliminated, the American taxpayer wouldn't save a cent. CARE Act services enable low-income and uninsured people with AIDS to reduce the amount of time they would otherwise spend in public hospitals. Without the CARE Act, the AIDS caseload in public hospitals would explode — and so would the bill to the taxpayer. The overflow caseload would end up in the emergency rooms of private hospitals, driving insurance rates higher.

Helms complains about spending so much money on AIDS when more people die of cancer and heart disease. But total federal spending this year on research, treatment, prevention, Medicaid, Medicare, and income supplements for AIDS (approximately \$6 billion) is about a third of the amount spent on cancer (\$17 billion) and a sixth of the amount for heart disease (\$38 billion). And direct lifetime medical care after diagnosis for an HIV-infected person costs more on average (\$119,000) than for a person with heart disease (\$61,211) or cancer (\$25,000-\$84,000, depending on stage diagnosed — early or late).

And cancer and heart disease have existed since the beginning of recorded history, whereas AIDS first appeared about 15 years ago and is already the eighth leading cause of death (and rising).

It's the number one cause of death among Americans age 25 to 44, which is why it's also the leading cause of years of productive life lost in the U.S. (that age group constituted 54% of the U.S. civilian labor force in 1992). Unlike cancer and heart disease, AIDS can be transmitted from person to person and it's almost 100% fatal. Many people with cancer and heart disease can be cured through operations and treatments — when's the last time you heard of someone being cured of AIDS?

Helms says he doesn't want to pay for a "behavior-based" disease. But seven in ten of the leading causes of death — including cancer, heart disease and accidents — are based at least in part on behavior. Helms himself had heart surgery in 1992: can he honestly say he never smoked a cigarette, ate fatty foods, neglected exercise, or engaged in any other behavior that contributes to heart disease? Obviously, Helms's argument is based not on logic but on contempt for people with HIV/AIDS and homosexuals.

We must insist that this is not an acceptable basis for public health decisions. And we must never let such insults go unchallenged, whether they are uttered by a snout-nosed schoolboy or a grown man on the floor of the U.S. Senate. ▼

MAILSTROM

Board of Supervisors
City and County of San Francisco



Angela Alioto

July 10, 1995

Senator Jesse Helms
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Helms:

Regarding your recent comments on federal AIDS funding. You never cease to amaze the American public with your opinions — obviously developed sometime during the dark ages. Your intellect, compassion and empathy rival that of a past member of the United States Senate — Joseph McCarthy.

I would like to take this opportunity, however, to thank you for your comments. By simply opening your mouth, you gave this issue the national media coverage it deserves. Your expressions of ignorance and bigotry have helped win renewed support in the fight against AIDS, especially among the American people and your colleagues in the United States Congress.

I have made many trips to Washington, D.C. over the past seven years to lobby for increased AIDS funding. I have made the reauthorization of the Ryan White Act one of my top priorities. Too many lives have been lost and too many are threatened by this disease. Your blind hatred gives me, and many others, a reason to fight as hard as we can.

Please give my regards to your friends in the tobacco industry. You must be very proud to be supporting an industry that willfully misrepresents the health hazards of tobacco to make a profit. You must sleep very well at night knowing that you have helped promote cancer, heart disease and emphysema among the American people. I suppose that is why you have no problem judging and condemning people with HIV and AIDS.

If ignorance is bliss, you must be the most contented man in the world.

Sincerely,

Angela Alioto
Supervisor Angela Alioto

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LETTERS

Producing the Bike-A-Thon

Recently, Different Spokes/San Francisco has been criticized for its decision to cease producing the AIDS Bike-A-Thon. The Board of Directors feels it is important to explain our decision, one arrived at after much soul searching and struggle.

Different Spokes is a recreational cycling club, not a professional event promoter. The first Bike-A-Thon, produced in 1985 for the SF AIDS Foundation, was fabulously successful with 65 riders bringing in \$33,000. As a grass-roots fundraiser, the Bike-A-Thon benefited 15 Bay Area AIDS service providers chosen anew each year. We emphasized startup organizations that had little public funding and which had outreach to underserved communities. The Bike-A-Thon has benefited over 40 Bay Area organizations, many helped to self-sufficiency through our efforts. In ten years the Bike-A-Thon has produced over \$2.3 million, every penny of which has gone to the benefiting organizations.

There are few other all-volunteer fundraising events of similar scale. The time and effort to produce this event is staggering. To maintain our tradition of giving 100% of the money pledged to the beneficiaries, we had to raise money for production expenses separately. Bay Area corporations gave little money, goods, or services. A small core group (many of whom were not Different Spokes members) devoted hundreds of hours to the event each year. A General Coordinator worked almost fulltime prior to the event. On Bike-A-Thon day hundreds of volunteers came forward to assure that things ran smoothly. Burnout rates were very high.

As the epidemic has spread the need for money has increased. Slick and glossy new events developed by professional promoters have sprung up. They are hooked into the corporate funding game and connected to the media to an extent we never achieved, raising funds tenfold of what we were capable. The results of the AIDS Walk, the Dance-A-Thon, and the California AIDS Ride are truly amazing.

The promoters are paid handsomely for what they do. When headlines say "AIDS Ride Raises \$5 Million for AIDS Groups," what they mean is "Event Grosses \$5 Million," and the beneficiary may net \$2.5 to \$4 million. Costs for slick production, voluminous mailings, and large staff salaries are high. There is only a finite amount of money in the donor base, and each event increases the competition for pledges with only those making the most noise getting noticed.

During the years, small organizations have faded away or been absorbed by larger ones. Moneys raised by the Bike-A-Thon pale in the face of the annual budgets of modern AIDS service providers and the amounts netted by the major fundraisers. Despite our efforts, Bike-A-Thon ridership and collected pledges have declined. We cannot justify the effort with ever-decreasing returns. Burnout has taken its toll on our Steering Committee, and indeed many beneficiaries themselves have been reluctant to provide volunteers and staff.

Different Spokes, the Bike-A-Thon Steering Committee, and all the volunteers can truly say they are extremely proud of what they have done these past 11 years. We produced a difficult and complex event which has been a model for larger pledge events that now take our place. We may be spent, but only because we have done all we were able to do and given our best.

Board of Directors
Different Spokes/San Francisco

Supporting IGLHRC

Thank you for the thoroughly interesting special section on "A World Without Borders" [in the gay pride issue]. It's so important for us U.S. queers to have a broader understanding of our fellow sexual minorities around the world.

I was, however, surprised and disappointed at the absence of an article about the San Francisco-based International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC). As a queer fortunate enough to live in San Francisco, I give to IGLHRC every year to support the work they do saving queer lives all over the world. By documenting human rights abuses against gays and lesbians, mobilizing responses and providing other kinds of assistance, IGLHRC's work makes a difference in people's lives every day of the year.

In this Pride year of "A World Without Borders" it's great to be educated about our global situation, but could the B.A.R. go further in providing information about some of the things we can all do to help improve that situation?

Jenni Olson
San Francisco

Successful ball

The Phoenix Uniform Club would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who assisted in making the 4th annual leather and uniform ball so successful. We would also like to thank all who attended the ball — your support allowed us to contribute \$3,700 to the AIDS Emergency Fund.

We hope to see all of you at next year's Leather and Uniform Ball.

Jim Maher
First Officer
Phoenix Uniform Club

Police duty

Apparently Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon [Letters, June 21] do not understand the functions and duties of the San Francisco Chief of Police when they unfairly criticize Chief Ribera and his apparent failure to take heed to citizen complaints and discipline rogue cops.

The duty of any San Francisco Chief is to keep out of trouble, be a good public relations man, support the rank and file, lobby for increased wages and benefits for all sworn personnel, and put in the necessary time for retirement pension and benefits, thereby paving the way for a successor, and finally, retirement in another county.

After so many years in San Francisco I am amazed that Phyllis and Del have not understood that it is their duty to support every police and fire hard luck story and give generous increases when salary review time comes up. Perhaps we collectively have streaks of masochism in us when we so generously pay those who would beat and even kill citizens and support officials who tolerate this and even promote the offenders involved. I am personally acquainted with that officer of whom the complaints were made all these past years. His punishment was promotion and glorious retirement. Why change the system when it works so well.

Andrew Betancourt
San Francisco

Shampoo you #1

Last night I heard three men at my gym talking about how they only use bottled water to wash their hair with — and not just any bottled water, but only the kind that's naturally carbonated.

Is that gay, or what?

Patrick Parker
San Francisco

Shampoo you #2

After 40 years of combing my hair like an unadventurous hettler, I finally succumbed to my fate as a gay man and sought out a hairstyle with, well, style.

Only one problem: I can't seem to master the #5%* blow dryer.

Now take a minute and peruse the B.A.R. This community offers support for every conceivable group under the sun: HIV+, alcoholics, drug abusers, overeaters, left-handers ... nothing for Gay Men Who Can't Blow Dry Their Own Hair. (Not to mention Gay Men Who Have To Get Up A Half Hour Early Each Morning To Blow Dry Their Lover's Hair.)

I gotta tell ya: sometimes life sucks!

Name Withheld by Request
San Francisco

A note of appreciation

A note of thanks to all the dedicated volunteers and institutions who helped my lover, Brett Averill, and myself through his long illness. These include Shanti, the SF AIDS Foundation, AIDS Legal Referral Panel, AIDS Health Project, Kairos House, PAWS, and Project Open Hand. Deserving special mention are our wonderful volunteers Jim Harlan, Barbara Hersey, Casey Conroy, Matt Thayer, and Sandy McCubbin.

Finally, some special words of appreciation for the B.A.R.'s Dennis Conkin, who wrote Brett's obit. The piece was clean, accurate, and professional, and just basically got it right. Brett would have been pleased and proud.

Bill Weintraub
San Francisco

"[I thought I needed a doctor.
I really needed a teacher
...a collaborator.]"

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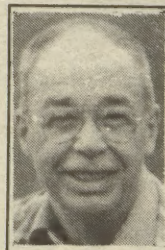


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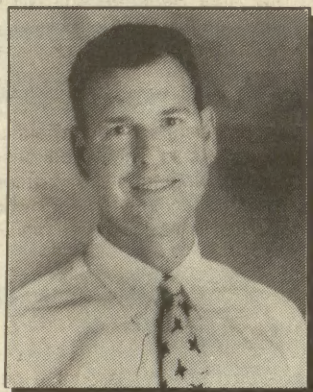
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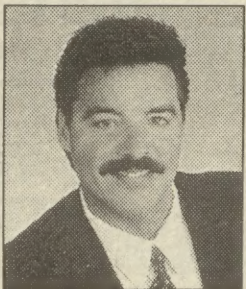
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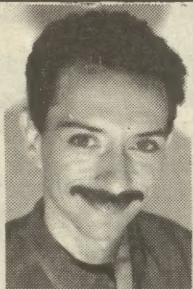
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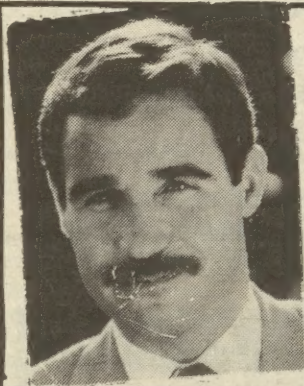
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LETTERS

More on T.P.N.

I must agree with Mr. Eric S. Caplan (Letters, 6/22) on the use of T.P.N. and how Mr. Michael Botkin's article ("Too Thin," 6/1) somewhat jumped the gun and somewhat dismissed T.P.N. treatments.

T.P.N. basically saved my life (also my Mom and my extended family) from a very serious condition I had for three months. The alternatives were not so pleasant.

I feel that Mr. Botkin has tended to get somewhat dogmatic on certain issues during the last year in his column. At times it's irritating, almost laughable. Come on, Michael, lighten up. Try to enjoy life.

Mr. Botkin really should re-evaluate his belief system in medical treatments and life in general.

Thanks again to a level-headed gay man living with HIV, for not being so shrill on this terrible disease.

Marcus Collins
San Francisco

A night at the opera

Thanks for Paul Thomason's intelligent review of *The Love for Three Oranges*. I work at the Opera House and was able to give your review to the chorusmaster, and he in turn was able to give copies to the chorus. They were very happy.

When the principals came to their dressing rooms at intermission on opening night they were surprised by how the public greeted every entrance with intelligent response. So it goes back and forth - good show, good audience makes wonderful theatre.

David Barnard
San Francisco

Royal recruiting

For the past 22 years the Council of Grand Dukes and Grand Duchesses of San Francisco has been a recognized leader in the world of Court Systems. We were the first Grand Ducal Court in the United States. Due to the positive image we put forth in the beginning, the Ducal family caught on and other communities have established their own Ducal Empires. We are an established 501(c)(3) California nonprofit corporation. Our membership comes from and is open to the community at large.

We are justly proud of our on-going support of charitable organizations that need public donations to survive. A brief list of these organizations includes Project Open Hand, Under One Roof, the San Francisco SPCA Hearing Dogs for the Deaf Programs, PAWS, the Godfather Fund, and of course, all of the local AIDS organizations. This list grows every year, and we try to accommodate all who need our services. Over the years, we have raised well over one million dollars for charity.

Once a year we acknowledge our "Royal" heritage and break out the dress uniforms and jeweled gowns to install the newly elected Grand Duke and Grand Duchess at our annual Coronation Ball.

We provide our members with a forum and support for original ideas. We encourage the input of the membership to guide the group in its goals and purpose and to set the agenda of what we want to accomplish.

We seek to expand our base to welcome more members. Our roster consists of a diversified representation of all sectors of the gay and lesbian community. Everyone who has a talent to share is encouraged to participate, from Divas to stagehands and all levels in between. We are also forming a new leather/uniform club to be known as the Royal Guards of San Francisco, and a live repertory theater group.

As you can see, we are interested in providing something for everyone. Anyone who can put the "fun" into fundraising and functions is welcome to let us know. Everyone who always wondered what they would do if they had a title (or just what the whole trip is about) now has a chance to find out!

For further information please send a letter of interest to:

Grand Ducal Council Membership Committee
2261 Market Street, #402
San Francisco, CA 94114

Alex F. Buiel, II
Director/CFO
Grand Ducal Council

Hu responds

I was very pleased to accept the 1995 Frameline Award from the San Francisco Lesbian & Gay Film Festival, but I was disappointed by the knee-jerk reaction at the world premiere of our film *Frisk*, which was the closing night film of the festival.

Frisk confronts some very dark issues and critiques the effects of violent media on the impressionable. Some audience members were shocked by the film's images and dialogue, and that was the point of the film. *Frisk* pushes the envelope to cause a reaction within the viewer to provoke issues that the gay and straight community can discuss.

Like a Rorschach ink blot we left it up to the viewer to apply his/her own moral values to determine the ambiguousness of the film's conclusion. Like *Natural Born Killers* it can be argued both ways that the violence in either films are either exploitative or used in a critical analysis.

Given the considerable body of work we have represented to date, i.e. *The Living End*, *Boys Life*, *Nitrate Kisses*, *Grief*, *Crush* and many others, I was disappointed that viewers didn't understand what we were trying to accomplish. Believe me, if we were attempting to make an exploitation film, we would have made *Gay Beach Blanket Bingo*.

I remember in the third grade I heard a joke which I did not understand, two days later in a classroom, comprehension set in and I laughed out loud. Perhaps some people need to think before they react by throwing stones.

Marcus Hu
Strand Releasing

Hostile reaction

[The following letter was sent to Marcus Hu, Co-President, Strand Releasing:]

I was in the audience when you were presented the 1995 Frameline Award during the 19th Lesbian and Gay International Film Festival in San Francisco. This presentation was prior to the screening of *Frisk*, which proved most fortunate for you. Had I seen the film beforehand, I would have been tempted to run on stage and spit in your face. It's no stretch to say most in the audience would have done the same. The hostility the film received, from people walking out, to the boos and hisses inside the theatre as well as the atmosphere of anger and outrage out on the street, was justified and well deserved. Your irresponsibility reigned that evening. I read you called the audience's reaction "hypersensitive." That's like blaming a bashing victim for the impact of the bat on the skull. It's also a coward's excuse.

Never again attempt to interpret intelligent literature by gutting its moral core and replacing it with "cutting edge gay cinema." You are not capable, nor was the director you employed. Trendiness has no place in pathos and pretty boys who can't act don't make a film. It may have worked in *The Living End* or *Grief* but *Frisk* is not such fluff.

And Frameline, that censorious shell of an organization which seems to do nothing but grieve its own lack of vision (i.e. Mark Finch) and give what amounts to incestuous hand jobs to little distributors like you, amplified the insult by showing it on Pride Day. Jesse Helms will squeal with delight: "See, the faggots love to murder each other too!" It was irresponsible and inexcusable.

It is rumored Dennis Cooper is upset at the results and, if true, rightly so. His novel, as with most of his writing, insists on pushing boundaries by forcing an internal assessment by and on the reader (is this too much for you?). Your movie never even makes the attempt. To arrogantly lay claim to comparisons with Oliver Stone's *Natural Born Killers* is nothing but the pretense of an adolescent mind. The audience was not full of idiots, and I am proud our reaction was strong, vocal and disrespectful of your "product." The film is not a "work in progress" as you state. It is cultural rape, plain and simple. All your post-production mumbling cannot suspend the need for apology. I suggest you consider that your next move.

Speculation could be made that his involvement in the production was yet another reason Mark Finch made the decision to jump. But then, that would assume his passion for film was eclipsed by this piece of shit. That speculation is tasteless and cruel, certainly, but no less so than the attitude you, Verow and Frameline displayed in that theatre that evening. All of you proved yourselves contemptuous of the audience and community by what you have created. You should be ashamed.

Donald M. Reynolds
San Francisco



Disgusting and revolting

The Ryan White Care Act of 1990, named for the late Indiana teenager who became an AIDS poster child, provided \$624 million (California received \$110 million of it) this year for the care and treatment of the disease nationally. The act comes up for renewal in September, and to the surprise of no one, **Senator Jesse Helms**, the most prominent homophobe in Washington – if not the country – is working hard to stall and even-

Commentary

ually wreck the nation's largest healthcare program for people with AIDS. The reauthorization reportedly has enough support in the Senate to pass, but is thought to be in trouble in the House of Representatives.

Helms told the *New York Times* weeks ago that "we've got to have some common sense about a disease transmitted by people deliberately engaging in unnatural acts." Last week, he went on the attack against the Ryan White Care Act by asserting that "deliberate, disgusting and revolting conduct" is the real cause of AIDS.

Jesse Helms's longtime hatred of gays and lesbians is not the only reason he wants to drastically cut back AIDS funding. The senator said this week that the money saved from the RWCA "should be used for heart disease and cancer research."

The leading cause of heart disease and cancer is, of course, smoking; Helms, of course, comes from North Carolina, the leading producer of tobacco in the U.S. The tobacco industry is one of his biggest financial backers, and he is their special friend in D.C.

Kansas **Senator Bob Dole**, the senate majority leader, is now the only person who can move the renewal bill in the Senate, where it reportedly enjoys strong bipartisan support. However, Dole is reportedly hesitant to advance the measure while he courts the likes of Helms and other Republican conservatives in his bid for the presidential nomination.

In the House, where the renewal faces real problems, **Speaker Newt Gingrich** (appearing to want it both ways when it comes to pleasing the GOP majority in that body) suggested the issue should be decided by "the scientists." He added that a proposed panel would "look at the totality of national research and say, 'Here are the next seven major breakthroughs.' If one is AIDS, then it

ought to go to AIDS." AIDS activists in Washington, however, are dubious of Gingrich and feel that he, too, is playing presidential politics and question his commitment to refinancing the act at the \$624 million level.

To his credit, **President Clinton** quickly attacked Helms's latest remarks during a speech at Georgetown University the very next day by calling Helms's position on AIDS funding "just wrong." The president remarked that "the gay people who have AIDS are still our sons, our brothers, our cousins, our citizens. They're Americans, too. ... They're obeying the law and working hard and are entitled to be treated like everybody else."

Assailing Helms's cant as probably being the "unofficial" Republican view of those with the disease, Clinton went on to say that "the truth is, not everyone gets the disease from sex or drug needles," citing as an example a nurse who got the virus accidentally through a pinprick while treating a patient with the disease. The president also questioned Helms's remarks about "behavior," noting that behavior doesn't preclude funding for lung cancer research despite proof that smoking causes the disease. Clinton stated, "Smoking causes cancer, but we don't propose to stop treating lung cancer or stop the research to find a cure, right? ... Drunk driving causes a lot of highway deaths, but we don't propose to stop trying to make cars safer, do we?"

Clearly concerned about the possibility of the RWCA being rejected in both the Republican-controlled Senate and the House, President Clinton recently wrote letters to congressional leaders of both parties, pleading with them to reauthorize the act.

Politics and poker

I probably shouldn't be printing this one, but a well-known local lesbian, who for years has been an AIDS volunteer in San Francisco, was so enraged on reading Helms's vitriol that she stopped me on Castro Street one day last week and angrily said, "This man is as bad as Hitler. I hope he dies one day of cancer of the asshole. How do such hateful people as this man even get elected to office?" I had no answer, but I share her anger – if not necessarily her hopes for Helms's demise.

And, as concerns the above, a tip of the hat to *Chronicle* sports writer **C. W. Nevius** for his editorial last week: "Jesse Helms's Ire

and Magic's Fire – Who's really the 'disgusting' one?"

He's heavy and he's my brother: **Candace Gingrich**, the 29-year-old half-sister of House Speaker Newt, told 250 gays and lesbians in Santa Fe during their Gay, Lesbian, and Bi Pride Week that "Newt my brother is a different guy from Newt the politician; I don't think he's homophobic, but he's gotten where he is today with the help of people who are anti-gay." Candace says, as his sister, she is "proud of what he's strived for," but, as a lesbian, she can't support many of his political positions. "I'm not going to support anyone who thinks gays and lesbians are second-class citizens," she declared. (That's nice, but I'm unclear about why she's "proud of what he's strived for." That's a statement that could use some clarification, Candace.)

Ms. Gingrich, suddenly a national lesbian celebrity, is currently on a 51-city tour for the Human Rights Campaign Fund. She is spokeswoman for the group's National Coming Out Project, which encourages gay people to disclose their sexual orientation.

Those "Draft Ben Hom" for mayor posters are a joke. Most City Hall observers see the Hom "candidacy" as nothing more than a plan to take Republican votes away from **Mayor Jordan**. Will it work? I doubt it. I predict the disgruntled ex-commissioner will see he has no support and pull out before November. (And yes, I do see the fine hand of my good friend **Jack Davis**, Willie's campaign manager, in this one.)


Madonn-A-Thon: "No celebrity has done more for the gay community – happily and proudly, I might add. The *Advocate* can kiss my non-lesbian ass." It seems last month's *Advocate* dissed the superstar, branding her their "Sissy of the Year" because she remarked in an interview that although she has many lesbian friends, the public shouldn't assume she was sleeping with them. ("I have a lot of good lesbian friends, but I'm not a lesbian. I love men.")

From where I sit, the *Advocate* should be praising Madonna for being in the forefront of gay rights as well as raising millions in the fight against AIDS, instead of deriding the woman about her sexuality or what they assume is a lack of sexual candor. Grow up already! We have enough real enemies out there. Try attacking them for a change. ▼



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DYKEOTOMY

St. Louis sojourn

by Elissa Perry

Neon-lit river-cruising casinos, bars that serve 'til three, other bars that serve all night, restored old movie theatres, White Castles, and the best pizza around. I've just returned from the city I used to call St. Lousy Misery and found it even less lousy and miserable than the last time.

The first night I was there, we went directly from the airport to the park under the Arch. There, Gladys Knight played a free concert in the warm and not-too-muggy evening breeze that flowed toward the Mississippi at our feet. The crowd that came out for Gladys was a large one. It was predominantly black, and there several queens of all colors prancing about and yellin', "Go on, girlfriend," periodically.

Down below the Arch, on the actual bank of the river, the river boats were doing a bustling business. We would return to that scene a few nights later with cups of gambling change collected from dressers, purse bottoms, and pockets over the course of the last few months.

We boarded the huge, art deco silver boat that has been restored and converted to a casino. When I was small, the boat had a red-and-white check theme, and my Catholic school class came here to go square dancing.

However, now my brother and mother and a grade school classmate (with whom I was flirting furiously) were taking me there for blackjack, craps, slots and roulette. (I'm sure there were many other games there, but these were the only ones we played.)

When we left the casino, it was two o'clock... in the morning. We had pretty much broken even, but we weren't drunk enough to eat White Castles. So we went to a bar. A band was playing, but there was no cover. When we first walked in, it just seemed loud, but they actually turned out to be pretty good. The clientele was a trip. They were mostly white and

straight, but I enjoyed fucking with them.

Girl twirl

The lead singer was the only female in the band. I gave her a big tip right in the middle of a song, then went over and lit the burly drummer's cigarette, not even giving him a chance to pat himself down for matches or a lighter. Then I snatched up a girl on the dance floor and took her for a twirl.

Had living in San Francisco for five years given me the courage to do this, or was it the fact that my 6'4" brother was there to assist me in any trouble I might encounter? Whatever my base of courage and confidence, I was having a damn good time.

The week continued in this

Commentary

manner — staying out till three or four, then going for White Castles. I'm sure a lot of you know what these are — since few people are actually from San Francisco — but for those of you who don't, I'll explain: White Castles, also known as belly bombers, are small, square hamburgers laden with onions and served on soft, white, greasy buns that melt in your mouth. Fourteen of them with cheese, two orders of fries, and two large mixes (a mix is half-Pepsi and half-orange soda) comes to \$7.32.

My last outing in the "Show Me" state was also to a bar, but I swear I did other more wholesome things in between — like hang out with my grandmother and stuff like that. But my family likes to drink, so what can I say?

Actually, none of my blood relatives were on this final outing — so much for the family excuse. The group consisted of my brother's Melissa Etheridge-and-Indigo-Girls-loving girlfriend and my grade school friend, who also carries a torch for Amy and Emily.

Needless to say, we went to a

dyke bar. For the first couple of hours, they had country-western dancing, and I must say I was fascinated. They put all the country western dancers I've seen at Bay Area bars, the parade, and elsewhere to shame. These chicks could dance! It was just amazing to watch these women shuffle and stomp and twist and slap in mind-boggling formations and configurations.

Amazing mix

While most of the crowd was white, there were all kinds of women on the floor: East Indian, black, Chinese, younger, older, a little bit country, a little bit rap, a little bit rock 'n' roll, a little bit city chic, etc. Of course, this mix is common in the Bay Area, but I was kind of shocked. I'd expected my friend and me to be two of three of four women of color.

My dates were pretty amazed, too. My grade school friend has a queer roommate and so had been to a queer bar in the Midwest before, but my brother's girlfriend hadn't. She had to have a beer and a half before she would get on the dance floor, but once she did, she wouldn't get off. The DJs had switched and the music was a funky brand of house. With her short blond hair and tight body, my quasi-sister-in-law blended right in on the dance floor. The only way I could get her to leave was to mention Ted Drewe's: the best dessert place ever.

We enhanced our munchies and played in the heavy hot wind outside our car windows as we made our way to Ted Drewe's. We passed a 7-11 where I saw the banner that would sum up my trip. I made them stop so I could read it again and laugh. It was huge and green and draped across the front of the store: "Everything From Pork Skins to Perrier." Maybe everyone across the country had already seen this ad, but it was a first for me — and pretty much put all of my complicated thoughts down in one simple six-word phrase that embodies a whole lot more. ▼

Visibility Week Plans To Bring Lesbians Out in L.A.

by Karen Ocamb

Despite the activism and social networking of lesbians in the "gay Mecca" of West Hollywood, the fact remains that it is still very much a gay Mecca. Even with lesbians taking to the streets alongside their male counterparts during the ACT UP/LA and AB 101 demonstrations, "Philosophically and politically speaking," as Deanna Stevenson, open lesbian deputy to City Councilmember Abbe Land, said, "gay men have more visibility than lesbians."

"We felt the need to address that issue," she said, "and bring lesbians into more visible leadership of the city." It was out of this need that Lesbian Visibility Week was launched six years ago. This year the events occur from July 16 through July 23, starting with the ever-popular Dykes & Their Dogs competition, hosted by comic Lynda Montgomery. The entry fee is a can of dog food to be donated to Pets Are Wonderful Support/LA, which helps people with AIDS keep their animals; prizes are awarded for such things as Best Kisser and Dog-Owner lookalike. Other programs scheduled for that Sunday include an all-day concert and sports.

Other events include panel discussions on Lesbian Dating Strategies; Coupleswork: The Intimacy Dance; Affirmative Action & Reaction; Get Your Affairs in Order: Legal Strategies for Lesbians; S/M 101 (More than just a Discussion); The Way We Were: Lesbian Tales of the City from the Forties & Fifties; Marriage A Lesbian Issue? A Discussion About the Marriage Resolution; Let's Talk About Lesbian Sex; and S.T.D.s.

The final event will be a return to elegance with

The City of West Hollywood, The Lesbian & Gay Advisory Council, Women's Advisory Council in association with The Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center

LESBIAN VISIBILITY WEEK

19th annual

Sunday, July 16 through Sunday, July 23

The purpose of Lesbian Visibility Week is to increase awareness of lesbians, encourage their visibility, promote their prosperity and the economic development of lesbian-owned businesses in the City of West Hollywood and to provide opportunities for lesbians to meet and celebrate their existence.

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Afternoon Tea at the lushly plush art deco Argyle Hotel (formerly the St. James Club). ▼

For more information on Lesbian Visibility Week, including prices to special events, please call (213) 993-7430.

Bernal Books: a neighborhood literary hub

by Kent Brandley

People do indeed still read," insists Rachel Pepper, owner of Bernal Books, located at 401 Cortland Avenue in the city. And she should know, since she knows a lot about books. She was a buyer and a manager for five years at A Different Light on Castro, and has had ten years experience in the book field. Readers may also recognize her name as the writer of the "Outer Limit" column for the B.A.R. for three years, prior to opening her store. She continues to be the book editor of Deneuve magazine, published in the city.

"Bernal Books is at heart a neighborhood community bookstore," Pepper says, "seeking to meet the needs of the residents of the hill. As a resident of the neighborhood I would like to be a part of making my store a literary hub for local writers and readers, and promoting good literature for adults and children."

While the emphasis will be on the neighborhood, gay and lesbian titles are in stock at Bernal Books, and old friends are always welcome.

Summer events vary with the neighborhood and have thus far included an evening workshop on composting, presented by SLUG (San Francisco League of Urban Gardeners); a reading by local poet Grace Grafton; and a reception for artist Renee Curran, whose small paintings and hand-painted clocks are on display in the bookstore gallery until the end of August.

Future events are also planned: on Friday, July 21 at 7 p.m. poet Leslie Simon, author of *Collisions and Transformations*, will read from her new work in progress. The following Friday, July 28 former Emerald Grove owner Jeanette Conley, R.N. will present a free workshop on the latest developments in homeopathy from 6 - 7 p.m. And at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, August 2 it will present a reading of *KIDS: Stories of childhood* by six local (adult) authors, including Margo Perin, Tom Burke, and Laura Weinstock.

Bernal Books is open Tuesday-Friday 10 - 7; Saturday 10 - 6; Sunday 10 - 4; it is closed Monday.

For more information call Rachel Pepper at (415) 550-0293

New Crew at East Bay Alliance

It's adios, Merle and hello, Gene as Merle Yost - one of the founders of the East Bay Business and Professional Alliance and the president during the formative years - hands over the reins of the healthy organization to Gene Boomer, the energized new president.

In a farewell note in the current Alliance newsletter, Yost ticks off a few of the old team's impressive accomplishments, including 120 gay and lesbian business community members, participation in employee fairs for AT&T and Chevron, a solid financial base, and nearing the final state of incorporation as a Chamber of Commerce.

With some big shoes to fill, Boomer is off to a flying start in announcing "Showcase II," the Alliance's second annual lesbian and gay showcase event to be held on Saturday, October 14 at the Berkeley Conference Center, located at the corner of Shattuck

and Bancroft in "Bessekeley." Booth reservations are being taken now. You save money on booth space if you're an Alliance member.

An evening with the Alliance and an open house will be hosted by Java Jones, the East Bay's newest gay and lesbian gathering spot, located at 100 Lafayette Circle in Lafayette, next Thursday, July 20, at 6 p.m.

Call (510) 284-5282 for directions to Java Jones.

Alex Adelman, chair of Showcase II, can be contacted at 1-800-805-7060.

Pride Keepsake Medallions Available

The Pride Parade may be over, but memories linger - and are appropriately captured in the form of a striking sterling silver "keeper" medallion offered by a lesbian couple from their tidy home in Little River (up Mendocino way), where people have time to contemplate and do things right. Lynda Morgan and her lover and business partner Patsi Ahern are offering the Pride Keepsake Medallion, which they say is the first gay medallion ever minted.

Five percent of profit from sale of the beautiful and unique medallions will go to local and national gay organizations.

Available in one troy ounce, .999 fine silver (at under \$40) and in bronze (at about \$24), the medallions provide something enduring to commemorate Gay Pride. They feature an intricately detailed rendering of the Golden Gate Bridge with the words: "Out & Celebrating, 25th Anniversary, San Francisco Gay Pride Parade." The flip side of the coin shows the world within a triangle, and the words, "A World United, 1970 - 1995."

"We envisioned something meaningful that could be enjoyed and passed on from one generation to another - a keepsake," Morgan says.

The 3-D, proof-quality medallion is struck multiple times, using highly polished dies and blanks, to create a superbly detailed image against a mirror-like background. Medallions are enclosed in an attractive black velvet pouch to keep them in mint condition.

For information, or to order, contact Lynda or Patsi at Pride Keepsake Medallions, P.O. Box 601, Little River CA 95456. Phone (707) 937-3325.

Awakening the Jewish Heart Pin

Atlanta artist Jackie Goldstein has designed the "Awakening the Jewish Heart Pin," combining two powerful symbols: the striking cloisonne lapel pin features a red AIDS ribbon draped over a black Star of David.

"The pin is dedicated to all those affected by the epidemic, to those living with the disease, and to the courage and memory of those taken from us," says spokeswoman Elaine Katz. The pins are \$7 each, with large order discounts available for local fundraisers. All proceeds benefit HIV/AIDS counseling, education, and advocacy at Florida's Jewish Family Services.

For more info or to place an order, call Jewish Family Services at (404) 888-6400, mailbox 276.



Gay collectible: This Pride Keepsake Medallion may be a future queer heirloom.

WinMark 'GLOWWW'S'

WinMark Concepts, Inc., in Washington, D. C., announced July 5 it will create the first-of-its-kind gay and lesbian home shopping site on the Internet's World Wide Web. It will be known as "Gays and Lesbians on World Wide Web," with the trademarked acronym "GLOWWW." WinMark spokesman David Cichanowicz says it will be the Internet's largest advertiser-driven site dedicated exclusively to interactive home shopping for gay and gay-friendly businesses and consumers.

An upscale, on-line, 'print' publication, GLOWWW will feature full-color advertisements, initially featuring advertisers drawn from WinMark's home shopping program *DIRECT MALE*, targeting an audience of upscale gay male households nationwide. It will premiere September 15.

Meanwhile if you can't wait, WinMark is at (202) 483-1300 - and you'd do well to ask for David and not mess around with his last name.

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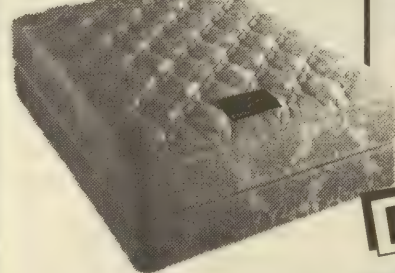
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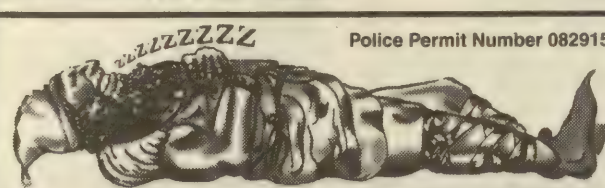
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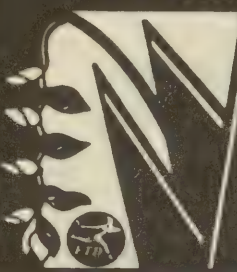
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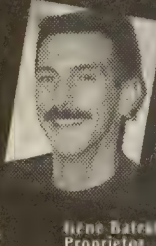
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And the loser is...

by Al Kielwasser

The Media Research Center (MRC), a less-than-academic group based in Alexandria, Virginia, issues an annual report condemning prime-time TV shows that "ridicule prominent conservative leaders" — at the risk of sounding like Rush Limbaugh, we don't make this stuff up — "and aggressively champion abortion and the homosexual lifestyle."

The most recently released MRC list identifies *Serving in Silence: The Margarette Cammermeyer Story* as the worst program of the past season (by contrast, the National Education Association gave the made-for-TV movie its 1995 Award for the Advancement of Learning through Broadcasting).

Other shows on MRC's "bad for you" list include *Sisters* (NBC), *Roseanne* (ABC) and *My So-Called Life* (ABC). Each of these series contained something the MRC "researchers" simply couldn't stand: non-hateful depictions of homosexuality.

When homophobic lists such as these are released (and given a fair amount of national media coverage), it's a good time to remind network executives that there is an intelligent, supportive audience for programs that provide fair, accurate, and diverse representations of lesbian, gay, and bisexual lives.

Contact Ted Harbert, President, ABC Entertainment, 2040 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles CA 90067, tel. 310-557-7777, fax 310-557-7170; Peter Tortorici, President, CBS Entertainment, 7800 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles CA 90036, tel. 213-852-2345; Chase Carey, President, Fox Broadcasting, P.O. Box 900, Beverly Hills CA 90213, tel. 310-277-2211, e-mail foxnet@delphi.com; Warren Littlefield, President, NBC Entertainment, 3000 West Alameda Ave., Burbank CA 91523, tel. 818-840-4444.

More wrong from the right

Another well-financed, right wing "christian" lobby is Focus on the Family, which operates a prolific Public Policy Division. One its more recent publications is a 116-page report called *Setting the Record Straight: What Research Really Says About the Social Consequences of Homosexuality* by Larry Burtoft, Ph.D.

Disguised as an academic overview, *StRS:WRRSAISCoH*'s "findings" are typical Focus on the Family homophobia: "Given the extreme medical risks and the fundamental psychological problems involved, the undermining of the natural family, and the threat to freedoms which the homosexual movement constitutes, wisdom seems to point to only one conclusion. Homosexuality... is not harmless, and certainly not beneficial... (it) threatens both personal and social well-being."

To point out that it is homophobia that is harmful and threatens personal and social well-being, contact: Focus on the Family, P.O. Box 35500, Colorado Springs CO 80995.

Singled in?

Without doubt, the MTV Network has demonstrated a singular commitment to covering lesbian, gay, and bisexual issues. In fact, the popular television service has included lesbians and gays

throughout its programming schedule. Homosexuality has been a subject of the network's diverse music videos, *MTV News* reports, *Sex In The 90s* documentaries, anti-violence specials, and several incarnations of *The Real World*.

However, there is still one place where lesbians and gays remain conspicuously absent. Queer folk have not been invited to participate in the various "dating" shows MTV has produced over the years, including its most recent series — *Singled Out* — which debuted last month.

MTV plans to produce 65 episodes of *Singled Out*, and the show currently airs twice each day, Monday through Friday. An online version of the game show is also in the works.

In each episode of *Singled Out*, contestants employ various techniques to "weed out" a date from a large group of contenders. According to the official MTV synopsis, *Singled Out* is the "ultimate relationship show where contestants get a chance to choose their ideal mate from a studio audience filled with the opposite sex." The key phrase here is "opposite sex," since lesbian and gay contestants are evidently banned from participating.

Only one motivation underlies such exclusion: homophobia. And it's no more palatable or defensible on MTV than it is on the Christian Broadcasting Network.

Including gay and lesbian contestants in the *Singled Out* mix would surely do justice to MTV's progressive vision. It could also offer routine, sex-positive portrayals... lesbian and gay images that are not limited to "controversial" news stories or documentary "specials."

Offer some friendly advice to Judy McGrath, President, MTV Networks Inc., 1515 Broadway, New York NY 10036, tel. 212-258-8712 or 212-258-8000, fax 212-258-8718, e-mail mtvmail@aol.com; America OnLine (AOL) users can also post comments directly to AOL's MTV message area (keyword "MTV").

No reporting APTitude

In Reno, Nevada, the Washoe County School Board recently voted to censor a gay youth hotline number that would have been printed on resource cards given to high school students. School Board President Bob Bentley cast the tie-breaking vote against the phone number.

The contested number would have connected students to the Gay Youth Outreach Program, sponsored by the Gay and Lesbian Student Union at the University of Nevada, Reno. The program's phone number was to be included on a list of various hotlines that offer services and support to teens.

The Associated Press (AP) offered remarkably shallow coverage of this issue, in a June 14th story that failed to pose any challenging questions to Bentley (or any of the school board members, for that matter). The AP simply reported: "Regarding the gay and lesbian hotline number, Bentley said that should not be a school district function."

Apparently, Bentley was not asked to elaborate on this position, which is reported as if it were self-explanatory. He was not asked to explain why, exactly, a hotline number for the victims of child abuse is "a school district function," while a number for victims of homophobia is not.

The only counter to Bentley's

claim is offered in a single sentence of the AP report: "Backers of placing the number for the Gay Youth Outreach Program on a reference card along with other phone numbers for such things as drug and alcohol problems and child abuse argued that teens who know they are gay need support." Once again, the AP story does not offer the slightest elaboration. Readers are free to assume the "backers" argued that homosexuality should be treated no differently than other diseases, such as drug and alcohol addiction. And if anyone mentioned "homophobia" — as they surely must have — their claims went unreported.

The AP story wraps up with two sentences that exemplify such careless reporting. The story "informs" readers that "backers of the measure... argued that gay youths often experience depression and contemplate suicide." "Opponents countered that the [hotline] number would promote homosexual lifestyles," the article concludes.

Unnamed, unquestioned, and unquoted, the "backers" and "opponents" can only be seen as moral, political, and intellectual equals.

It would have been enlightening, to say the least, if this AP article had posed just one probing question, requesting a "backer" and an "opponent" to support the over-broad claims cited here. There is, after all, ample evidence to demonstrate both the naturalness of homosexuality and the nastiness of homophobia. But *not one* credible study has ever proven that a phone number can "promote homosexual lifestyles."

When it comes to covering the "homosexual beat," many mainstream reporters seem overly concerned with "balance." Being factual, however, is no less important than being fair.

Critical feedback should be sent to both the Washoe School Board and the AP wire service: Bob Bentley, President, and All Members, Washoe County School Board, 425 E. 9th Street, Reno, NV, tel. 702-348-0200, fax 702-348-0304; Associated Press, 50 Rockefeller Plaza, New York NY 10020, tel. 212-621-1500.

Media briefs

• Tell Your Vision ... KQED Television is seeking films and videos with "strong statements on important subjects" for its widely-watched PBS series, *Viewpoints*. Contact: Greg Swartz, Manager of Broadcast Projects & Acquisitions, KQED, 2601 Mariposa St., San Francisco CA 94110, tel. 415-553-2269; *Rights & Wrongs*, a weekly nonprofit "human global rights TV magazine" is seeking story ideas and footage for the series' new season. Contact: Danny Schechter or Rory O'Connor, Executive Producers, The Global Center, 1600 Broadway, Ste. 700, New York NY 10019, tel. 212-246-0202, fax 212-246-2677.

To notify GLAAD/SFBA of any defamatory or affirmative media coverage, or to request membership information, please call our 24-hour Media Watch Hotline (415-861-4588) or write to Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco CA 94103; tel. 415-861-2244, fax 415-861-4893, e-mail glaadsfba@aol.com.

The day domestic partners became official

by Mary Ann Swissler

The city of Berkeley has had its reputation as a stronghold of Commie-pinkos bashed around quite a bit, but before it went completely to the dogs and took up the torch of conformity, it made one, grand last stand for progressive politics. This week in 1984, domestic partnership benefits for city employees became a reality. The community was elated since San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein vetoed a domestic partnership package in November 1982, and the issue seemed doomed. After all, if not in San Francisco, where then?

On July 19, 1984, Berkeley took a monumental leap towards the empowerment of couples who lived outside the conformity of traditional heterosexual marriages, by enacting the first domestic partnership statute in the entire United

States.

The council voted to hold off implementation until 1986 on the advice of city manager Daniel Boggan, however — a decision made to a chorus of boos and hisses from gays and lesbians in the audience and the strenuous objections of Mayor Gus Newport. Boggan had argued that the city needed to study unforeseen costs of domestic partnership benefits and the impacts on the next round of union negotiations.

But while the 5-1 vote, along with three abstentions, was largely symbolic, it was a major victory nonetheless for the gay and lesbian community. The gay activist who spearheaded the campaign, Tom Brougham, said the city's decision gave gays "a new access." David Cunningham, chairman of the city human relations and welfare commission, told the *Oakland Tribune*, "This is a first, a precedent for other cities

to follow." The city council voted to recognize same-sex living arrangements among all City employees, as well as for straight couples who did not want to tie the knot, by providing the same fringe benefits as those offered to married folks. Applicants were required to sign a letter of commitment.

Later, in 1989, due mainly to the efforts of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, Berkeley opened its registration service to members of the general public over the age of 18. According to a worker in the city clerk's office, applicants who are already living together can obtain a domestic partnership certificate for a one-time \$30 fee. "You take your certificate to your employer and you work benefits out with them," she said.

The negative impacts on the city, so feared by Boggan, never came to pass, financial or otherwise. ▼

SF Activist Exposes Anti-Gay Terrorism in El Salvador

by Dennis Conkin

Activists involved in the gay liberation struggle and AIDS prevention and education efforts in El Salvador are worried about death threats against members of Entree Amigos, a Salvadoran gay men's support group.

According to a Wednesday, July 6 appeal by the Oscar Romero AIDS Project, three men in the group have been threatened by a death squad known as "La Sombra Negra," or The Black Shadow.

The death threats follow a June 24 break-in by three armed men who entered the El Salvador office of FUNDASIDA and removed a computer, television, typewriter, and confidential documents from the group's office, according to ORAP co-director Matt Wettlaufer, a San Francisco resident.

Three health outreach workers, a secretary, and ten young clients participating in an HIV/AIDS prevention and education workshop were in the office at the time of the terrorist act.

According to reports, the men said they were looking for Dr. Francisco Carrillo, the agency's director; said that they would kill him when they found him; and threatened to kill everyone present.

At the time, Carrillo was leading an AIDS workshop in a Salvadoran prison in conjunction with the Dutch Embassy.

"There are four or five groups acting under the name 'La Sombra Negra,'" Wettlaufer told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "What's very scary is that they have identified themselves at all. That means they are backing up the threats and they

are very serious about carrying them out."

Wettlaufer said that he was particularly concerned with the theft of the group's computer, because it contained an extensive client data base.

Since the incident, FUNDASIDA clients and staffers have received daily death threats.

Wettlaufer's El Salvadoran counterpart, ORAP co-director Wilfredo Valencia Palacios, was threatened by death squad members in incidents last October and November, while doing AIDS street outreach work.

Mayor urges 'elimination'

In related news, according to the Committee In Solidarity With The People in El Salvador, San Salvador's Mayor Mario Valente recently issued a public statement saying that the city wanted to eliminate prostitution and homosexuals in San Salvador.

The attack on FUNDASIDA and the threats against Carrillo follow the June murders of three transvestites in the area, who were repeatedly stabbed in the stomach and whose throats were slashed. Police have described the killings as "domestic" incidents, despite the identical and serial nature of the murders, Wettlaufer said.

Alerts have been issued by Amnesty International, CISPES, The International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, and ORAP. ▼

Letters should be sent to The President of El Salvador Armando Calderon Sol, Casa Presidencial, San Salvador, El

And, Witherspoon said, Ebey and Murphy were quick to assume "that honorable gay lawyers could not represent a trustee who found himself, unwittingly, in a dispute with a gay victim of AIDS."

"But while many (but not all) of the attorneys and staff of my office are gay or lesbian, ours is not a political law firm, but one which attempts to provide compassionate, hardworking and competent service (within our limited areas of practice) to many types and conditions of clients," Witherspoon said. ▼

Witherspoon

Continued from page 5

Witherspoon, the whole matter has been blown out of proportion and become a "cause celebre" unfairly trumpeted in the press.

Witherspoon told the court that both he and Causey had also been subjected to unfair "demonization" when the case was originally about a year-long delay of a payment of merely \$5,000 out of \$84,000 of benefits to which Wilson was entitled.

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PHOTO: Jim James

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Auditions This Month for Bay Area Raw Rahs

Two prep workshops set for July 23 & 25

by Kent Brandley

Open auditions for new members will be held July 30 by the Bay Area Raw Rahs, San Francisco's internationally acclaimed adult cheerleading/dance team.

The Raw Rahs, now the longest running openly gay adult cheer/dance squad in the world, was established in 1980. The troupe has performed at every Gay Games since the onset and will go to Gay Games

V in Amsterdam in 1998. Throughout the year the Raw Rahs perform in shows, parades, athletic events, and in a variety of other settings.

The self-perpetuating group has had as few as five members and is now at 13, said Steve Burke, who is co-captain of the Raw Rahs along with Morgan Craig. Now the group wants to enlist people who are outgoing, dynamic, and energetic, with some experience in either cheerleading, dance, or gymnastics.

Auditions are scheduled for noon until 3 p.m. on Sunday, July 30 at the Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts, located at 1519 Mission Street in the city. Two cheerleading/dance workshops are scheduled before the audition - Sunday, July 23 from noon to 3 p.m. and Tuesday, July 25 from 6 to 9 p.m. - also at the Sims Center.

New members will receive extensive training at a four-day college cheerleading camp at UCLA in mid-August, Burke said, to help learn some tricky human pyramids, partner lifts, and precision dance routines.

The Raw Rahs have been traditionally male cheerleaders wearing collegiate dress uniforms but using pompoms. Their red, black, and white uniforms are the same colors as those worn by the San Francisco



Photo: Darlene/ Photo Graphics

Straighten out those knees and show some teeth! The Bay Area's answer to the Rockettes, the Raw Rahs, will be holding auditions later this month.

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Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band, their sister unit. "We collaborate with them and wanted to blend well," Burke said.

"We're real professional in

our approach," he told the B.A.R. He said the group was "real high energy and dedicated, and not a camp show by any stretch of the imagination." ▼

To register for the audition and workshops call Morgan at (415) 567-5530 or Steve at (510) 228-7497.

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SF General AIDS Ward Needs a Little \$\$\$ Help

Ambiance, entertainment funds running low

by Kent Brandley

The lounge that is used mostly by the AIDS patients and visitors in Ward 5-A of San Francisco General Hospital needs renovation and additional equipment, private observers and hospital officials say.

Dion Jones, head nurse in Ward 5-A, told the *B.A.R.* that there are now 24 beds in the ward, 90 percent of which are occupied by patients with AIDS; the rest are oncology patients. Frequently there is an overflow. The "Elizabeth Taylor Lounge" used by its patients and visitors was still "in use, but kind of funky," she said, and contributions for refurbishing would be of great help.

Mera Granberg, executive director of the General Hospital Foundation, said the lounge receives "tremendous use" on a day-to-day basis for a variety of purposes, including wedding ceremonies. She confirmed that it needs attention.

In 1994 the California Eagles Motorcycle Club donated a couch to the lounge, and local employees of Nestle donated television and VCR equipment; the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence have also been sup-

portive, Granberg said, but there never has been a major refurbishment of the lounge since it was opened in the mid-1980s.

The situation is about to come to a head: the current lease contract for the ward's color television sets is about to expire, and Granberg said unless funds are found to renew the contract or purchase sets outright, it is likely there will be no TV available to the PWAs at all.

There is already no music system in the lounge because contributor funds have not come in to help pay for it. Granberg estimates that remodeling the lounge, replacing TVs, providing VCRs and stereo equipment, and purchasing a blanket warmer for the comfort of PWAs with sensitive skin will cost about \$50,000.

Used televisions and stereo equipment would be of little help, Granberg told the *B.A.R.*: "Everything runs to hospital specs [specifications]," she said, so a donated piece of equipment might be unusable because it might not meet the higher fire and electrical requirements.

"Cash," she said, "would be better."

Granberg assured the *B.A.R.* that funds earmarked for the AIDS Ward will go for that pur-



Photo: Rick Gerhart

Elizabeth Taylor could use a facelift. The lounge or room, that is, on SF General's Ward 5-A.

pose, less ten percent used for the Hospital Foundation operating costs. ▼

Send contributions to San Francisco General Hospital Foundation. And mark it: For AIDS Ward and Clinic. Send to P.O. Box 410836, San Francisco CA 94141; phone (415) 206-4478 for further information.

Op Concern, 18th Street Merger May Still Happen

Mental Health, Drug Treatment Services Renew Talks

by Dennis Conkin

San Francisco Department of Public Health Director Sandra Hernandez announced on Thursday, July 6 that merger talks had resumed between Operation Concern, a lesbian and gay mental health services agency, and 18th Street Services, the gay men's outpatient drug treatment agency.

Hernandez and senior Health Department manager Jo Ruffin successfully facilitated the break in the impasse that had existed between the two groups, in a two-hour meeting with officials of the lesbian and gay service groups and California Pacific Medical Center (CPMC) officials.

"The parties remain committed and extremely optimistic that the merger will result in an efficient, effective organization uniquely capable of providing an array of mental health and substance abuse programs to gay men and lesbians of all ages in San Francisco," Hernandez said after the meeting.

She told the *Bay Area Reporter* that negotiating obstacles resolved during the meeting were concerns about the composition of the future agency's board of directors, as well as other fiscal and administrative issues. The parties will continue to work out details of the merger at a follow-up meeting that has already been scheduled, she said, predicting the major obstacles to the venture should be resolved within one month.

Merger negotiations between the two organizations had been underway for weeks but were called off on June 15 in the wake of

CPMC's withdrawal, after OC advisory board members expressed concern that 18th Street Services negotiating tactics smacked of "a takeover."

Sources close to the negotiations told the *Bay Area Reporter* that some of the issues worrying members of the Operation Concern advisory board included the financial stability of 18th Street Services, which was reportedly "maxed out" on its bank credit line — at a time when the agency was so cash-strapped that it was several months late in rent and had not paid health insurance premiums for employees.

Steve Burns, 18th Street Services executive director, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the agency's cash crunch was caused by delays in payments for services, and that the agency was solvent and had never missed a payroll.

With 24 employees and a budget of \$1 million, 18th Street Services provides outpatient substance abuse treatment and HIV prevention and education to hundreds of gay men a year.

The merger of the two agencies had been spurred by the Health Department's desire to consolidate community-based services as a cost-saving measure, in an era of deep cuts in federal and state funds available to local communities for health services.

"There are a lot of agencies out there. I don't think all of us are going to survive," said Operation Concern executive director Kevin McGirr. "These issues are particularly sensitive. Merging to try to form a new entity is very difficult." ▼

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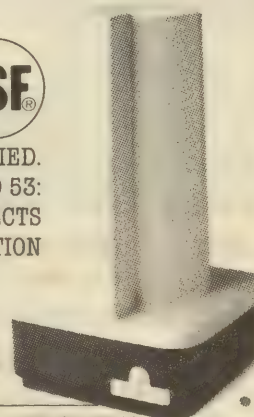
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This is a phase III study using DaunoXome for people with Kaposi's Sarcoma with pulmonary involvement. Other forms of treatment for KS must be discontinued at least two weeks prior to treatment. This study is sponsored by Vestar, Inc.

DaunoXome

This is a compassionate use protocol for people who have advanced KS. Patients receive infusions twice a month and may continue indefinitely. This study is sponsored by Vestar, Inc.

For further information, please call the Client Care Coordinator at (415) 353-6215. HIVCare is a program of the Clinical Research Department at Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde St., SF 94109.

"I know unprotected anal sex is risky, but sometimes I just put it out of my mind."

"I'll get around to being safer, but not right now."

"Sometimes I think I'd just as soon get AIDS, and get it over with."



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L.A. Safer Sex Summit: The County's New Stats

by Karen Ocamb

What started out as a spontaneous experiment turned into a defining moment at the June 29 Southern California Safer Sex Summit, organized by the Los Angeles-based AIDS Healthcare Foundation. The predominantly gay male audience of AIDS educators had just finished groaning about an AIDS expert's assessment of the risk factors associated with oral sex, when L.A. City AIDS Coordinator Ferd Eggan took an informal poll.

How many people engage in unprotected oral sex? Eggan asked. Every male hand seemed to go up. *Now, after hearing what you just heard about the risks, how many of you are going to change your behavior?* Not one hand was raised.

The point was made: knowledge doesn't change behavior. But, Eggan observed, that's not exactly true either - although the "second wave" of AIDS is obviously coming, the majority of gay and bisexual men are not infected, due in large part to the community's efforts at AIDS education.

However, with new cases of HIV infection dramatically on the rise, especially among the young, Eggan and the roomful of AIDS activists at the Hollywood Roosevelt acknowledged another horrible fact: 13 years into the epidemic, no one knows "the answer" to HIV/AIDS prevention.

The Summit, said AHF president Michael Weinstein, was an effort to "own up" to that miasma and clear the air about mixed messages, denial, and apathy, to re-invigorate the depressed community through the re-gaying of AIDS.

AIDS is now the leading killer of Americans between the ages of 25-44. It's a statistic that no longer startles. Nor does the extrapolation that, given a roughly ten-year incubation period, many of those AIDS patients were infected as teens. Knowledge of the current HIV infection rate increase has been decreed for several years now - only to fade when another issue surfaces. The response gives "Silence = Death" new meaning, especially in a community that prizes individuality and has yet to grasp the concept that it has generations.

"For reasons that no one really understands, a generation of young gay men - not even men, really, but kids about to become men - seem to have turned away from the fundamentals of safe sex. They ... appear to have abandoned caution, acting as if a decade of sexual education about AIDS had never taken place," wrote Robert A. Jones in a *Los Angeles Times* Magazine cover story in July of 1993. The article also referred to a 1991 study by the San Francisco Department of Public Health that found "gay men between the ages of 17 and 25 consistently engaged in high-risk sex. And the younger the men, the riskier the behavior."

Teen infection rate: 11.5%

Since then, scores of articles and serious reports have drawn attention to the problem with questionable effect. In December of 1993 the *New York Times* wrote "Second Wave of AIDS Feared By Officials in San Francisco," citing various surveys by the city's Health Department and others that indicated that "one of every three gay men in San Francisco is engaging in unsafe sex, primarily anal intercourse without condoms." The article also observed that AIDS experts were reluctant to acknowledge the resurgence of unsafe sex for fear of a bigotry-backlash or the public policy questions that might be raised about shelling out the estimated \$100,000 it cost (in 1993) to treat an AIDS patient "who knowingly gets infected."

A May 1994 *Los Angeles Times* editorial proclaimed that L.A. County "has the second-highest number of HIV and AIDS cases in the nation," but failed to adequately use its CDC funds to target high risk groups for HIV testing. Early this year the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services' AIDS Office HIV Planning Committee set up a number of community forums for public input: already one in eight young men in L.A. is HIV-positive.

But it was a recently released preliminary findings of a L.A. County Health department survey of young men ages 15-22 that sparked the June 29 Summit: the survey showed that over half had engaged in high risk behavior in the previous six months, with 11.5% already HIV-infected.

"Why is all this high risk sex going on?" asked Weinstein. "I don't have the answers. ... Taking it out of the closet is the only thing I know to do."

"If we cannot make a stand now we have lost another generation."

A fucking scary drug

Walt Senterfitt, R.N., M.P.H. stressed the direct correlation between alcohol and drug use, judgment lapses, and unprotected sex, with specific references to the recent epidemic of crystal methamphetamine. (A 1995 CDC study reports that 43% of gay men in L.A. County who had AIDS and a history of injecting drugs named "stimulants/amphetamines" as their drug of choice, according to a May, 1995 story in the *L.A.*

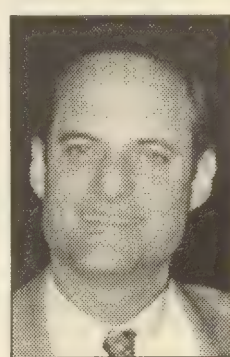
Times.) Regarding "negotiated" sex, over 45% of HIV positive people Senterfitt surveyed did not disclose their sero-positivity to their sex partners.

Later, Van Ness Recovery House executive director Kathy Watt confirmed that crystal is the "fucking scary, treacherous ... drug of choice" among gays who come to the House seeking help - 80% at any given time are coming off the drug. Watt is also concerned about the problems faced by HIV-negative gay men and safe sex "slippers," saying that 60-80% of her residents are HIV-positive at any given time. While there are a variety of reasons why people "slip," there are no "safe places" for gay men to honestly discuss sexuality.

"I believe we've created a whole new closet in our community of HIV-negative men who have no safe place to explore who they are and how to date, so they stay at home," says Watt.

What do young men think?

The Young Men's Survey presented to the Summit audience by Wes Ford, M.P.H. of the County's HIV Epidemiology Program, was powerful. Survey takers talked randomly to young men between the ages of 15-22 who reported having sex with men in the previous six months but who do not necessarily identify as



Michael Weinstein

gay or bisexual. They were interviewed in a number of venues, mostly in the "entertainment" area of West Hollywood. Of 233 young men, 23 tested positive for HIV - thus 10.3% or one out of every ten young men interviewed was HIV-infected - "pretty dramatic," Ford said.

A number reported having female partners; a large percentage reported having anal sex at a very young age.

Over 50% had engaged in unprotected anal sex in the six months prior to the survey; virtually all engaged in oral sex without a condom; about 90% engaged in unprotected anal sex with a "steady partner." Availability of condoms was an issue with "exchange or non-steady partners," though they report they could get a partner to use a condom if they asked, and some question exists about when a youth considers a partner to be "steady" - after how many sexual interludes?

About 75% had already been tested, 30% only once. Most seemed to use it as a preventative measure, with the attitude "if I'm still negative, I must be doing something right."

Most young men surveyed go to their private physicians for healthcare - though there is some question about whether sex is ever discussed or safer sex taught. A common attitude towards safer sex is that it is "unsatisfying."

The risks of oral sex

Dr. Charles Farthing's report indicated that many people in treatment are having unsafe sex because AZT-resistant strains are turning up in the newly infected. The safety risk of unprotected oral sex is "unknown," he says; however, anecdotally, it seems that men who restrict themselves to oral sex are less likely to become infected - though the practice is not entirely safe. Cases of infection in which oral sex is reported as the only factor are increasing. Oral sex is more risky with those with more advanced HIV disease and the recently infected, especially those who may not know they are about to sero-convert.

"I've known this information. My attitude is that it is a calculated risk," says Weinstein, "... and I accept what I consider to be a low level risk. Condoms remove 95% of the enjoyment of oral sex - at least that's the opinion of most gay men. Actually they say: 'If you suck somebody's dick with a condom, you might as well not suck it at all.'"

On the other hand, he said, he wants to make unprotected anal sex as socially unacceptable as the smoking campaign has made smoking.

Eggan emphasized that it is critical for the gay community to create a social role for HIV-negative men, reiterating the increasingly-held view that "political correctness" has mandated that the community not empower the negative man for fear of disempowering the positive.

The real question, Weinstein said, is who is going to take responsibility for stopping the flow of infection? "The bottom line is that nothing on 'the gay agenda' is more important than saying the next generation of young gay men," Weinstein says. "But in certain respects, the enemy is us."

Yes, he says, we have to fight the government and the religious right wing. "But we have to clean up our own act. We mature and flower when we accept that responsibility."

"We have to save our community." ▼

Story of a 'magic bullet'

by Mark Bowers
ACT UP/Golden Gate
Writers' Team

The treatment of HIV disease might ideally involve a number of complementary strategies, which include an antiviral strategy to decrease the numbers of viral particles that disable the immune system, plus an immune-boosting strategy to heighten responses against HIV and enhance immunity in general.

Although current antiviral strategies are uniformly mediocre at controlling viral production, they are fairly well-known to most people. The immune-boosting strategies are less well-known, and more difficult to evaluate. Theories of what goes wrong in immune function as a result of HIV disease abound; many strategies involve augmenting certain subsets of the immune system in efforts to stave off disease or to repair damage.

One immune-based therapy may be IL-12, a cytokine (a chemical messenger) that has looked promising since 1989. Several studies of the effects of IL-12 have attempted to fit it into an immune restoration strategy in AIDS and also define its use in the treatment of cancer, malaria, and tuberculosis. As recently as last April, the *Wall Street Journal* was excitedly calling IL-12 a "magic bullet" and the National Institutes of Health sponsored a special meeting to decide just how to develop IL-12 as a therapy and as a vaccine additive.

Then, last month, one kidney cancer patient in a clinical study of IL-12 died, while 11 others were hospitalized with "adverse reactions." The cancer trial was immediately halted.

What went wrong?

Genetics Institute of Cambridge Massachusetts and Hoffman-LaRoche have been looking at IL-12 in kidney cancer for more than a year. Observers were disappointed that long-awaited safety and toxicity data were not released after the conclusion of Phase I studies of the potential therapy. Instead, the NIH heard all about IL-12's effects against bacteria, protozoa, fungi, worms, and viruses. When the unexpected death occurred, no one had any context to evaluate the cause: was it the IL-12, or the way in which it was made? What responsibility do drug developers have to release safety data before they proceed with wider testing?

It may be that proprietary interests are outweighing the needs of people living with AIDS and other life-threatening diseases. While competition between Genetics Institute and Hoffman LaRoche may speed research (because they both want the prize of licensure and FDA approval), neither company was willing to go public with their early safety and toxicity data

for fear of giving a competitive edge to the other company.

Mediated vs. humoral

IL-12 has been in the limelight because of the current fashion of belief in the Th1 and Th2 patterns of immune response (Th stands for T-helper). Simply put, some cytokines are said to be associated with a humoral (antibody) response, useful in controlling extracellular infections such as protozoa and worms, while certain other cytokines are said to be associated with cell-mediated immunity, the kind that tracks down and destroys virally infected cells and controls some bacteria. A shift from one kind of immune response to the other has been known in mice for many years. It remains difficult to prove in human beings, although this has not deterred everyone from vaccine researchers to alternative therapy proponents from leaning heavily on theory to promote their products. IL-12 has been said to be the most powerful immune modulator yet discovered. Some researchers speculate that IL-12 will keep the immune system in a Th1 pattern of response, possibly delaying progression to AIDS.

Encouraged by early reports about IL-12, AIDS activists pressed for early testing of the cytokine in HIV disease. Single dose, dose-escalating studies of IL-12 started at San Francisco General Hospital in May 1994. This was primarily a safety and toxicity study, a necessary step before studying the cytokine as a potential drug for the treatment of HIV disease. The good news is that the toxicities seen in the kidney cancer study were not yet seen in the HIV-related studies. Multiple dose studies were scheduled to begin this month, but have been put on hold until more is known about what happened to the cancer patients and why.

Brenda Lein, Director of Project Immune Restoration at Project Inform, noted, "It's important that the community not evaluate immune-based therapies by the same criteria as antivirals. The history of IL-2, another cytokine currently being research in AIDS, shows that it took years of research before a useful dose and schedule for the drug was nailed down. We're bound to see difficulties as research proceeds into immune-based strategies.

"We're playing with a very delicate system that we don't know much about - but the urgency of AIDS requires that we move forward with imperfect knowledge. The real goal is to minimize the risks. The companies should be applauded for slowing down a little here."

Shelf life, half life, and death

Genetics Institute continues to study the toxicities that became apparent in the kidney cancer

study, and notes that the way the drug was administered changed slightly - and the formulation of IL-12 itself changed - from previous studies. The formulation change was intended to increase the product's shelf life while not interfering with other properties, such as half-life and uptake of the product. By July 10, Genetics Institute had determined that the formulation was not responsible for the death during the study, and is continuing its investigation of the difference between the dosing schedule that resulted in the 11 adverse experiences and the previously uncomplicated dosing schedule. Dennis Harp of GI Corporate Communications said, "We still hope to continue with our planned study of IL-12 in HIV after we meet with the FDA, which will probably happen by the end of the month."

The future of IL-12 remains uncertain for yet another reason. There are many promising avenues of IL-12 research that would potentially benefit millions of people who suffer from malaria, leishmaniasis, or schistosomiasis, common in the Third World. Both companies have resisted developing the cytokine for these indications, fearing the economic downside of distributing a drug through the World Health Organization. IL-12 will need to prove effective and profitable against cancer and/or AIDS before it will be developed for other uses. Meanwhile, development of IL-12 remains stalled, even for lucrative markets. ▼

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Lesbians seek Gay Men to play "uncle"

OAKLAND - A new sperm bank, Rainbow Flag Health Services, plans to offer a new service to the Lesbian and Gay community: **known donor insemination**. They are recruiting Gay and Bisexual sperm donors for Lesbians and will tell the mother who the biological father is when the child is 3 months old. Under California law donors have no financial obligations nor any custody rights. Knowing the donor can be very important to the child. Some artificially conceived children start asking about their biological fathers as young as 3 and 4.

Being a known donor gives Gay Men, who do not want to raise children, an opportunity to have children in their lives, connects them to Lesbian families, and helps build community. Many Lesbians want donors to play "uncle" to their children. The demand for known donors is much greater than the supply. Rainbow Flag Health Services is recruiting donors of all ethnic backgrounds. If you are healthy, under 55 years old and are interested in being a known donor call for an appointment **(510)763-7737**

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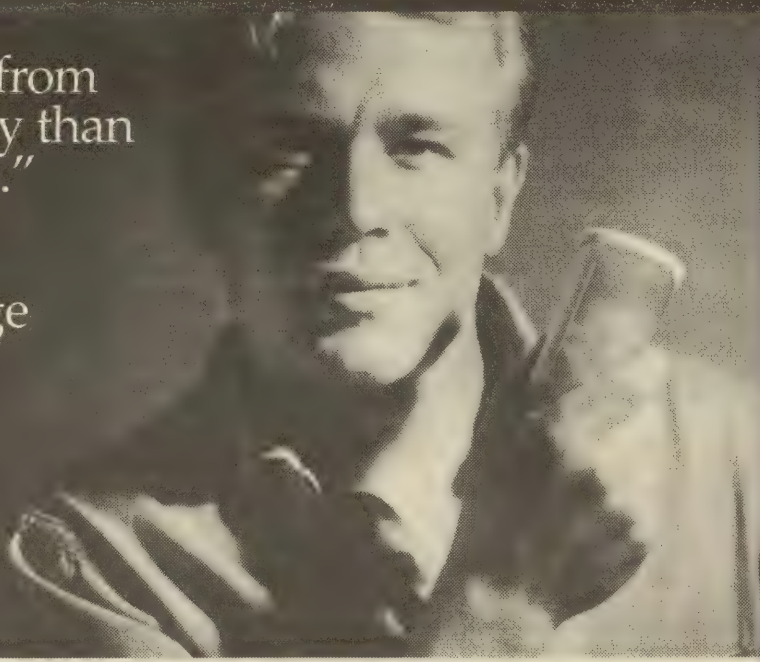
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ACTION UPDATE

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- Without the tests it's a hit and miss in treatment.
- The result is wasted money on poorly managed care and death for people with AIDS.

If you only had a fever!

If you have not received these tests from your insurer or healthcare provider, please call (415) 789-7838 and we will help.

Testing Alert! Efforts are still afoot at the federal level to impose mandatory testing upon childbearing women. The most recent proposal would attach it to Ryan White Care Act funding. Call your Congressional Representative and tell them to oppose any attempts at mandatory testing!

ACT UP Golden Gate meets every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at 592 Castro Street, upstairs.

Randy Allen

May 25, 1951 - March 1, 1994

Randy passed peacefully away, surrounded by family, at Summit Hospital in Oakland.



Deciding to give his lover of seven years, Bobby Smith, a break from taking care of him, Randy went into the hospital for the first and last time in his fight with AIDS.

Bobby took care of Randy after he retired from the restaurant business. Randy was originally from Salt Lake City, Utah. Bobby believed Randy would be his guardian angel, and he was!

Randy and Bobby were known for their dinner parties and brunches, which their friends and family richly enjoyed. They were San Francisco and Oakland residents.

Randy was survived by his beloved Bobby and is survived by his son, Meric, whom he loved very much; parents, Vaughn and Mildred; brother and sister, Kerry and Marlene; Bobby's family; and his many friends - among them Robbie, Martha, Scott, Neva, Marsha and Amanda. Randy loved each one of them, and they all loved and miss him.

Special thanks to the staff at Summit Hospital, Dr. Solomon, Dr. Marzouk, David, Jamie, the volunteers at the Center and Project Open Hand, and everybody who stood by him. ▼

Bobby Smith

Dec. 18, 1961 - July 8, 1995

Bobby passed peacefully in the arms of his caregiving partner, Bertil. He is finally reunited with Randy.



Bobby played in stage productions, which was for him an escape from life; served in the U.S. Army; worked in restaurants; and at Hornblower Dining Yachts in San Francisco. He also volunteered

for Shanti. Bobby and Bertil met in Amsterdam. Bobby stayed for three months, had a great time, met wonderful people, and accepted a few months later Bertil's offer to come over and take care of him and be there for him until the end.

More than once Bobby said: "I had a great life!" He felt very fortunate to be surrounded by loving and caring people.

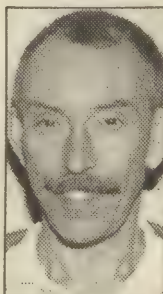
Bobby is survived by his loving partner, Bertil; his loving parents, Robert and JohnElla; brothers, Clyde, Larry and Ben; sisters, Marilyn, Diana and Cheryl; in-laws, Wayne and Valerie; nieces and nephews; friends, Robbie, Martha, Marsha, Amanda, Scott and Neva; as well as other loving and loved friends both in the USA and Holland.

Special thanks to Dr. Marzouk, Dr. Solomon, David, Jamie, the staff at Summit Hospital, Suzie Boots, Vesper Hospice, Project Eden, Project Open Hand, the Center and Home Care Companions. ▼

Alan F. Hall

Jan. 10, 1943 - July 17, 1994

Once upon a dream, you were heaven-sent to me, but it wasn't meant to be.



Now I see it fade, and I'm here all alone.

Letting go of that hand that I've grown so accustomed to holding, letting go of that warmth can be so hard. Not holding on to your arm that was there to protect and embrace me, not seeing your smile, has been quite sad.

There was bound to come a time when I had to find my way. The time has come when I must let you go. I will be moving on with my life, on my own.

You will always be with me; I will always need your love, but it's so hard not to have you around. But now it's time for letting go.

When I look back, I will recall, minute by minute, our greatest moments of them all. Not a day goes by that I do not think of you. Your photograph is still next to my bed, and when the lights go out at night, you are part of my thoughts, love and soul. It's been quite a year, and I still loving you...Miguel, "The Widow Hall" ▼

Peter J. Eulate

Dec. 31, 1963 - July 4, 1995

Dear, sweet, funny Peter left this world peacefully, in his sleep, after a



valiant and stoic battle with AIDS. His partner of nine years, Andrew, and sister Rena were with him until the end.

Peter was born and raised near Phoenix, Arizona, but found his "home" in San Francisco. He loved the energy of this city and spent his time exploring the nuances of what he considered "the most beautiful place on earth."

Peter became very private in the last years of his life, but continued to love dearly the many people whom he had encountered in his travels. He has now embarked on the greatest adventure of them all.

Peter is survived by an extensive, supportive and caring family and many friends. Peter's ashes will be scattered in the Pacific by Andrew and the immediate family. We miss you, Cheech. ▼

Christopher Robin Rickles

Dec. 30, 1952 - May 21, 1995

Chris joined his life partner, David Bond, less than three months after his



passing in February. Chris' life was filled with friends, family and a passion for collecting and travel. He will be remembered for his superior design sense, love of Clarice Cliff pottery and a truly compulsive desire to clean.

Chris was supported to the end by his sister, Claire; father, Ric; and his friends and family. His life is celebrated and his death mourned by his loving mother, LaJuana; stepfather, David; grandmother, Alta; compassionate sisters, Terry, Nancy and Holly; and their families. Also supportive to the end were David's family, Marty and Mary Bond, and James and Gerry Bond.

As for Chris' friends, Joan and Aric, Jeff and Bob, and Stan, both his and David's passings have left a void in our lives, and we miss them daily.

To all of us, there was that which was regal about Chris and so, "Goodnight, sweet prince." ▼

Derrex Earl Nash

Feb. 8, 1960 - May 12, 1995

I am an infinitely better human being as the result of our time together.



Before meeting you, never did I imagine I had the capacity to love so fully, so completely. What a wonderful gift.

I will forever hold you as The Love of My Life, One Love of a Lifetime.

Oh, how I look forward to our rendezvous.

Until then, your love and the echoes of your contagious laughter will be my inspiration. - All my love, Fatty ▼

Rodney Clurman

Nov. 20, 1934 - July 3, 1995

Rodney's very close friend, Ron Schwaab, died in December 1994 at Laguna Honda Hospice in San Francisco. After grieving and suffering from deep depression, Rodney took his own life, but his AIDS activism of the past 10 years will be a living memorial to him.

I met Rodney 17 months ago when he arranged for Ron Schwaab to be admitted to Laguna Honda Hospice because it was very difficult for my brother, Gordon, to give him proper medical care at home. Rodney visited Ron every day, rain or shine, besides contacting a famous SF comedian and prominent clergy to visit Ron and other patients. Rodney, you were the best.

Rodney learned to care for people while working as a press aide to President Kennedy and a broadcast journalist at NBC in Washington. With relatives in the theatre and music world, Rodney was very proud of his scrapbook of memories.

Rodney's son, Andrew Clurman of Connecticut, arranged for private services and cremation. Please give donations to your favorite AIDS charity in his memory. Rodney, I am so sorry we did not make more time for you. Rest in peace. - Love, Allan, Gordon and friends ▼

Jim Hill

Sept. 11, 1960 - May 9, 1995

Jim Hill, character extraordinaire, lover of leather and men, died in bed on



May 9 before AIDS could get the best of him. His ashes were dispersed in the Pacific by his brother, Todd Friedman, and his friends, Walter L. and Lindsay C. A memorial service was held in Brooklyn, N.Y., where Todd lives.

and where Jim was born. With Jim's trademark leather hat adorning a lavender cloth in the synagogue, Todd honored Jim by reading Jim's poem: "To Empower the Trendfully Challenged and PC Impaired."

With Jim the highs were high and the lows were low - so it was in his on again-off again relationship with Doug Clarke. Jim liked to be called "Sarge," but those who knew him well knew he had a soft heart. He was a perfectionist who took pride in his ability as a wall-paper hanger. He was a voracious reader and a wonderful cook. Most importantly, as his life came to a close, he learned to be vulnerable and open up to people. We will miss you, Jim.

Contributions can be sent in Jim's memory to AIDS Project/Jewish Family and Children's Services, 1600 Scott St., San Francisco, CA 94115. ▼

Frank Hecker

Aug. 4, 1943 - July 5, 1995

Beloved friend and mentor Frank Hecker embarked on his final voyage



the morning of July 5, and has now joined the one true love of his life, longtime companion David Waggoner, to tour the heavens in peace.

Frank was blessed with a superior intellect, an unmatched wit and the common sense to know when to call on which gift. Those of us who knew and loved Frank will miss him terribly; he made a difference in our lives. ▼

Randy Benson

Dec. 2, 1953 - June 23, 1995

Our dear friend Randy left this world on June 23 after a valiant eight-month battle with AIDS.



Randy never gave up his greater battle against homophobia. He entered work, church and personal arenas that took great courage and strength to confront. His patient but persistent style (for which he credited his mother) was successful toward making a better world for everyone.

Randy is survived by his mother, two brothers, father and stepmother, many aunts, uncles, cousins and close friends. Randy has been laid to rest in Provo, Utah. Our gentle warrior will be greatly missed. Donations can be made to the Pacific Center for Human Growth in Berkeley. ▼

Cory Lowther

July 29, 1945 - June 16, 1995

Cory was born and made his home in the East Bay, except for a brief time



in Hawaii in his twenties. He is best remembered for his quick, expansive sense of humor; his creativity in designing a beautiful, warm and welcoming Orinda home with lap pool and gardens; his care in restoring a classic 1956 Thunderbird;

and his epicurean mastery of Hawaiian, Indonesian, Dutch and Thai cuisines. A week before his death, he was working on a cookbook and the T-bird.

Cory had a deeply spiritual nature that went beyond earthly boundaries. This proved a source for helping his friends and family as AIDS progressed.

Cory owned and operated Lowther & Long, a barbershop in the Shalkee Building, with his business partner, Janet Long, who preceded him in death. Janet's daughter is continuing the business.

Cory is survived by his parents, Mildred and Hugh Lowther of Orinda; his twin brothers, Ted and Tim; his niece, Treasa; and a host of people who consider him a brother. A service honoring his life will be held at St. Stephens Church in Orinda on July 29, his 50th birthday. Please call (510) 531-5537 for details. ▼

Marty Cogan

June 6, 1949 - July 1, 1995

Marty died peacefully in the presence of his lover Jack Collins and his



beloved Labrador Frederick at dawn on July 1 after a five-year struggle with AIDS. His courage and optimism made him a hero to all who loved him.

A distinguished research scientist and physician, Marty received his B.A. in biology, with honors, from Stanford in 1970 and his M.D. from Harvard in 1974. His reputation as a scientist was international, and his work on the structure and function of the human kidney was considered brilliant. Professor of Medicine at UCSF and chief of the Nephrology Section at the VA Hospital at the time of his death, Marty received numerous prestigious awards and honors throughout his career.

Marty and Jack met in San Francisco in 1974, and it was love at first sight. They traveled throughout Polynesia and Micronesia during the 1980s and had the time of their lives in the islands.

Marty is survived by his father, Ralph Cogan; his mother, Marian Singer; his brothers, Larry and Andy; and by Jack and Frederick. A memorial service will be held at the Swedenborgian Church on Friday, July 14, at 1 p.m. Donations to AIDS organizations and charities are requested. ▼

David Stanley Wheeler

Aug. 3, 1956 - July 6, 1995

David died peacefully on Thursday afternoon after a long struggle with



AIDS. He was surrounded by love at the end: his lover, Jim; his dear friends, Victoria and Zina; and Victoria's son, Matthew.

He will be remembered by many for his vivacity, his lively wit, his good taste, his effortless

charm, his ability to turn any event into a party and, not least of all, his courage. Even with a T-cell count in single digits, David approached an astonishing array of activities with zestful enthusiasm. Movies were his first love, but he was equally at home at the ballet, at a Giants game, the AIDS Dance-A-Thon or a Chris Isaak concert.

Ever generous with his time and his deep love of people, David assembled a large and remarkable group of loyal friends after his arrival in the Bay Area from Texas in 1986. We will miss you, David, for a long time. Your little dog, Stash, misses you, too. You are in our hearts forever.

Donations may be made to the AIDS Emergency Fund in San Francisco. A memorial service will be held Saturday, July 15. Call (510) 836-0858 for details. ▼

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ACT UP

Continued from page 1

ships and Colorado's Amendment Two.

Republicans estimated the property damage at the site at between \$5-10,000.

The actions were condemned by gay Republican leader Chris Bowman "as unlawful" and he urged that those arrested in the incident be prosecuted "to the fullest extent of the law."

Bowman, one of the founders of the California AIDS lobby group Life AIDS Lobby, said the vandalism by ACT UP/San Francisco was "totally unacceptable."

"This only hurts their cause. We don't support Jesse Helms. This is completely unlawful and they should suffer the consequences of their actions. This is absolutely unacceptable," Bowman said.

SF Republican party spokesman Arthur Bruzzone Jr. told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the group would also seek civil action against ACT UP/San Francisco for the damages.

"This kind of violence only hurts their cause. It doesn't do anything to speed progress," Bruzzone said.

"Radical Republicans continue to attack our community, to the silence of the churches and mainstream Republicans," responded ACT UP/San Francisco spokesman Michael Bellefountain. "They need to come out against the right wing - and until they do, the San Francisco Republican party

is as God-damned guilty as Jesse Helms."

Bellefountain said that the action signaled a renewal of militant AIDS activism by the local ACT UP chapter, in the face of what he called "an agenda of oppression" against people with AIDS and the lesbian and gay communities.

"The Republican party embraces a virulently homophobic and AIDSphobic agenda and has been on a campaign to eradicate homosexuals and people with AIDS since the Reagan administration," Bellefountain said.

The activists who were arrested and remain in jail at the Hall of Justice on \$20,000 bail are Casey Carlisle, John Larratta, David Pasquarelli, and Michael McEntee. ▼



Photo: Mr. Marcus

The Bare and the Beautiful

Twelve of the 13 1996 Bare Chest Calendar Contest winners (there was a tie for the June 1996 spot) flex their pecs for the camera in a recent photo. The men and their musculature will be on display at the Dore Alley Fair this Sunday to promote the calendar, proceeds of which benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Insurance

Continued from page 1

party), this provision allows them to receive almost 100 percent of the insurance amount in cash. A little-known provision can double the amount for those expected to die before age 36.

The average age of a person dying of AIDS in San Francisco is 41, according to Derek Gordon, spokesman for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, and Dr. Mitch Katz.

McCormack says the best way to get money from a life insurance policy is through a private loan from friends or family in return for naming them beneficiaries. If they have equity but no cash, a reverse mortgage without monthly payments can be used. The second best way is through accelerated benefits, if available. The least desirable way is through viatication of the policy. Income from

accelerated benefits or viatication is still taxable under Federal law.

The Federal Employees Life Insurance (FELI) open season is not an annual open season. There won't be one next year.

Generally, McCormack advises, the federal employee can only make a non-medically-underwritten enrollment on his or her first duty day.

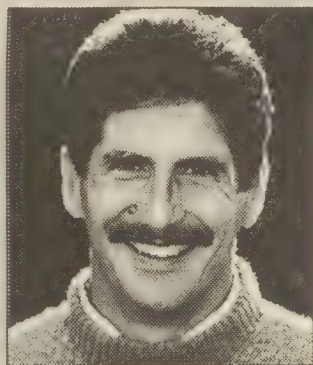
When an employee adds dependents, however, he is permitted to add annual salary multiples, without question, up to the number of dependents acquired.

Paul Causey, executive director of AIDS Benefits Counselors in San Francisco, cautions, "As with any private benefits, a person should assess the impact any action would have on existing benefits and entitlements you are receiving or are about to qualify for."

Causey encouraged HIV positive people to see an AIDS benefits counselor, such as those at

ABC in San Francisco. ▼

For more information call Tom McCormack at (202) 479-2543 or AIDS Benefits Counselors at (415) 558-9845.



ROBERT A. BROOKS

August 16, 1948 - February 22, 1995

Robert died peacefully in Honolulu while lying with his partner Ron. They were visiting Hawaii, a place that they both loved very much. Hawaii was Robert's home before he moved to San Francisco nine years ago. He and Ron shared many wonderful times there.

Robert was a quiet man, stoic, with a persistent thirst to pursue those things he loved; a loyal and loving partner and friend. For a while he was a chef, operating his own restaurant in Denver. And for always he was a brilliant cook preparing gourmet meals for his chosen family and friends. For a while he was a lawyer here and in Hawaii. And for always he used his keen mind to study and appreciate the wonders of this world in music, in art, and in travel, especially in travel. Robert and Ron spent many months in Europe over the last eight years, returning many times to Italy and France that Robert loved so dearly—the places so old and human, the food so fresh and delicious, and the beauty so everywhere. His Italian and his French helped him navigate and be comfortably at home in these foreign places. With all the travel he always returned to his northern California of San Francisco and Cazadero. For a while he was an actor in numerous community and college theatres around the Bay Area. And for always he accepted and performed the roles that this life offered him.

Robert was born in Pennsylvania, and graduated from college in Hawaii. He is survived by his lover and partner of nine years Ron Harmon, by his dog Caz, by his brother George and his partner Di, by his former lover Bob and his partner Joe, by Ron's sister Jennifer and brother David, by his mother and aunt, and by his family of friends Lyle, Linda-Lou, Danny and Michael, Debbie, Janet, Patti, and Betty. We miss him very much and know that he was ready to accept whatever came next. Everytime we eat a good and lovingly prepared meal, we will remember him; everytime we see a play, we will remember him; everytime we travel, we'll remember him; and everytime we encounter someone quietly being themselves, we will remember him. We are very grateful and thankful that Robert was a part of our lives and that we were a part of his.

A service celebrating Robert's life will be held August 25, 1995 at 2:00 pm. This celebration will be held at the Swedenborgian Chapel, 3200 Washington Street at Lyon. Donations in Robert's name can be made to 'Food For Thought,' Forestville, CA.



David Weatherspoon Montgomery, Jr. (Buddy)

March 14, 1960 to June 28, 1995

Buddy died, in his partner's arms and in the comforting presence of his mother, of AIDS complications.

Born in Greensboro, NC, Buddy had an extensive career as an actor and vocalist. Beginning in high school as a member of its touring ensemble, he was a soloist at Lincoln Center. He attended the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and sang with the Men's Chorus, the University Chorus, and in opera. After moving to Atlanta, he had performed with several community choral groups and in community theatre. While in Atlanta, he attended the Music Business Institute. After moving to San Francisco, he was active in the gay community. Performing in many benefits and most recently was in the cast of *Dirty Dreams of a Clean Cut Kid*. Many may remember him as the sometimes moody desk clerk at Muscle System. Until his health failed, he was employed by Muscle System and Josie's Cabaret. Buddy intends to spend his afterlife performing with Judy Garland in Oz.

Buddy is survived by his partner Richard Wright, his mother Betty T. Montgomery, his father and stepmother, Mr. and Mrs. David Montgomery, his sister Christy Whitelan, his maternal grandmother Mary G. Thorp, and his cat Silver Louise.

Because of the support and loving care provided to Buddy during his courageous fight with AIDS, donations in his honor can be made to the following organizations: Paradigm, AIDS Emergency Fund, Project Open Hand, Ward 86. Your donations should be made to the group of your choice and sent to the attention of Rick Wright at 454 Collingwood, SF 94114.

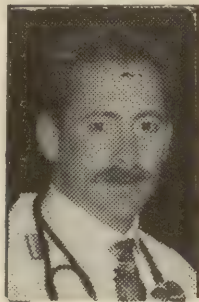
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HIV WATCH

Democracy in action

by Michael C. Botkin

Jesse Helms's latest antics have drawn much queer ire. He's attempting to hold up the Ryan White bill by claiming that PWAs get more than our fair share of federal money, particularly since we suffer from an affliction "we brought on ourselves." He certainly can't stop passage of the bill funding Ryan White (which, in any case, had already been reduced by one third), but he will succeed in slowing it down — because of presidential politics.

The bill funding the Ryan White act will pass because it's co-sponsored by 61 senators, which is not only enough to pass it but enough to shut down any attempt at a filibuster by Helms and his die-hard reactionary colleagues. The problem is that some of these "sponsors" have mixed feelings about it — none more so than the Senate Majority Leader and front-runner for the Republican nomination for president, Bob Dole.

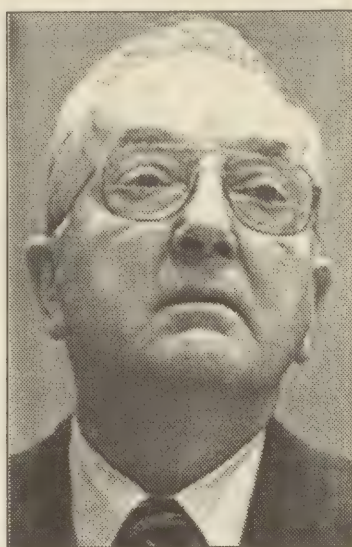
Dole is currently courting the far right in an attempt to sew up his nomination and defuse any threat from the host of right-wing fringe candidates challenging him. I never considered Bob a "moderate," but I'm not a Bible-thumping fundamentalist. He's been soft on abortion and until recently supported a ban on assault rifles. Now he's come down hard right on both those issues, but the Christians still suspect that his bigotry lacks conviction. He has been seeking ways to reassure them.

Enter the Ryan White bill. This is a bill that no decent legislator could oppose, that no one with a shred of integrity could hinder.

But such realities aside, it is clear that some of this money would end up going to gays, and that's enough to make the fundies and their point man, Helms, want to eliminate it.

While Dole isn't ready to jump on their bandwagon, he's not above slipping them all the quiet support he can in order to curry favor. Thus he's devoted himself — not to stopping the bill of which he is after all a co-sponsor — but to slowing it down. He's instructed his flunkies on the committee to do whatever they can to tie it up, to keep it in committee and off the floor.

This probably won't derail the legislation. But it will send a message to the fundies that Dole is friendly, and the longer it languishes in committee, the more opportunities the right wingers



Jesse Helms

political system — and our Congress a joke, a sad and deadly joke. Anyway, with Helms you have to admit that he's standing up for what he believes. Dole's betrayal is, in some ways, far slimmer than Helms's open bigotry.

Commentary

will have to find some way to bring it down, probably by sneaky procedural methods rather than an open, honest vote. It's possible that the bill will never make it out of committee, in which case having a majority on the Senate floor will do it no good.

Senile bile

The situation is particularly aggravating for a number of reasons. That Helms can still get away with his senile bile is astounding. His argument — that we PWAs got our disease because of our own actions — is clearly false, at least in some cases. That's why the Ryan White bill is named after Ryan White, to highlight the existence of "innocent" victims.

Still, it can't help but make me a little bitter to hear public officials defending the legislation by pointing out that there are some "innocent" victims. It implies to me that if there weren't a few hemophiliacs mixed in with the gays and IV drug users, they would accept Helms's twisted logic.

And then there is the irony of such an argument being made by the "Senator from Phillip Morris." Helms says more money should go to cancer, because more people die of it. But his census of cancer patients (or cancer "victims" to use the mainstream's AIDS terminology) probably includes tens or hundreds of thousands of sufferers from lung cancer who are smokers. Clearly these people inflicted their malady on themselves and, if Helms's logic were applied fairly, shouldn't be getting any federal money.

Of course, Helms has no intention of applying his pseudo-logic fairly, and Congress will no doubt, despite its supposed frenzy to cut pork from the budget, continue to subsidize the tobacco industry.

For what it's worth, Helms is probably incapable of thinking logically at this point. Reports from inside the Beltway claim that he's getting more and more senile. In a recent debate on North Korea, Helms stood up to denounce normalizing relations with their new leader, Kim Sam Il. Reading from his notes, Helms repeatedly referred to "Kim Sam the Second."

His aides were a little embarrassed; after all, Helms is the head of the Foreign Relations Committee and should display a greater knowledge of foreign affairs. For the next day's debate, they updated his notes and tried phonetically spelling out the Korean dictator's name: Kim Sam ILL. That day, in debate, Helms referred to the Korean as "Kim Sam the Third."

That such a senile idiot can partake in debate and be treated seriously makes a mockery of our

Presidential posturing

The Ryan White bill isn't the only casualty of the '96 presidential campaign. Closer to home, Governor "Sneaky Pete" Wilson recently reimposed an old state guideline making it more difficult for unmarried people to adopt children in California. His stated reason for doing so was to limit adoption by gays. This was done not to protect children — the ostensible reason which no one believes and which can't really be defended — but to curry fundamentalist favor in the upcoming presidential primary.

Courting the reactionaries was also the reason Wilson started his big campaign to roll back affirmative action. One could argue this won't affect gays, since we've never been included in it. But that's clearly shortsighted; gays will suffer from the increase in repression such efforts produce as much as anybody. The general public takes the elimination of affirmative action as "open season on minorities," and we're a favorite minority to attack, physically as well as legally.

The effects of these posturings will stay with us long after the presidential campaigns have ended in victory or defeat. Whether Wilson wins the presidency or not, we're stuck with his anti-gay adoption laws and anti-affirmative action measures. In some ways, we'd be better off if he won, because then the Democrat who will become governor in his stead might reverse some of his legislation. And whether Dole wins or loses, if the Ryan White bill never makes it out of committee this year, there will be suffering as a result all across the country.

Of course, Republicans aren't the only ones doing presidential posturing. President Clinton, after agonizing publicly for a week over the closing of McClellan Air Force Base, agreed to allow it after the Pentagon said they'd try to keep most of its 11,000 jobs in California. This is seen as an empty promise by most of those affected by the base closing, but it allows Clinton to save face and woo California voters — and he must win this state if he's to win the general election.

It is, alas, typical that when the Republicans posture, they do real harm; but when Clinton postures, it has no real effect other than any positive PR he can squeeze out of it.

It's enough to give me grave doubts about the future of democracy in America. I hope it (and I) survive the Republican primaries without further losses to mob psychology. ▼

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THE SAN FRANCISCO AIDS FOUNDATION

SERVICIOS DISPONIBLES EN ESPAÑOL

COMMUNITY NEWS

ACT UP Golden Gate: meets Tues. nights, 7:30pm at Mobilization Against AIDS, 592A Castro St. Info: 252-9200.

ACT UP SF: committed to ending the AIDS crisis thru direct action. 1388 Haight St., #218 94117. Info: 522-2907.

AIDS Benefits Counselors: Professional review and counseling about benefits for people with AIDS/HIV+. Free. For intake scheduling, screening, referral, call 558-9845.

AIDS Community Research Consortium conducts HIV and AIDS clinical trials at sites located in San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. For a free listing of current trials available, call 800 864-ACRC.

AIDS Dementia Unit at St. Mary's Med. Center seeks volunteers. Call Ed Schultz, 750-4976.

AIDS Health Project: Mixed caregivers and women's caregivers groups; drop-in groups for HIV+ and PWA, more. Info, intake interviews: 476-3902.

AIDS/HIV Nightline provides telephone emotional support and crisis counseling. Volunteers needed: training begins soon. 984-1902.

Alameda Co. HIV Prevention Planning Council Public Hearing, Mon., July 17, 5:30pm. Alameda Co. Office of AIDS Administration, 1970 Broadway, Suite 1130, Oakland. (510) 873-6500.

The Alternative Family Project: low-fee family counseling service available for lesbian, gay and bisexual families. Call 550-2621.

BAHAN (Bay Area HIV Advocacy Network) is a grassroots program of the SF AIDS Foundation: phone/fax tree action alerts, gov't lobbying, HIV Policy Watch newsletter. Info: Ryan Clary 864-5855 ext. 3032.

Baker Places provides housing for people with AIDS who have substance abuse and/or mental health issues. For info or intake call 284-1740.

Bay Positives: Provides recreational and emotional support for people up to 26 years old living with HIV. Ongoing support groups meet weekly. 487-1616.

Bereavement Groups for family, friends and partners who have lost a loved one to AIDS. Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF. 750-4404.

Boy + Boy: actions which promote safe sex among young gay and bi men. Tues., 7pm at Stop AIDS Project, 201 Sanchez. 575-1545 xBOY.

Break Out! a networking group for gay/lesbian trainers and human resource professionals. Call Greg 431-5651 or Grace (510) 465-0341.

Brothers Network Spring Support Groups: HIV and Recovery, Mondays, 6:30pm, 973 Market, Suite 650. Call for schedule of other groups: 356-8140.

Clinica Esperanza, the HIV Clinic at Mission Neighborhood Health Center provides comprehensive bilingual HIV services. Sliding scale fees. 431-3212.

Clinical Research Unit at UCSF seeks participants in a study involving AZT. Subjects must be HIV +, 18 yrs., CD4 count between 300-500. Pays \$80. Call

476-5914.

Coming out group for lesbians: Fri. mornings, 10:30-12, facilitated by Nathalie Paven, LCSW. Operation Concern, 1853 Market St. 626-7000, x. 127.

Coming out support group for men meets Tues., 6pm at Operation Concern, 1853 Market St. Men of all ages welcome, no fee. Facilitated by Kirk Hinman, PhD. Info: 626-7000.

Continuum HIV Day Services: an adult day health care facility for people with disabling HIV disease, located in the Tenderloin. Call 241-5500.

Deaf AIDS Center at UCSF Center on Deafness offers services to those with HIV experiencing hearing loss or deafness. Counseling, resources, practical support. Interpreting services and assisting devices on loan. 476-7600 (TTY) or 476-4980 (voice).

Directory of HIV Clinical Trials in the Bay Area: free Summer '95 edition. Call 476-9554.

DNCB Support Group: Meets 2nd & 4th Mon. at 194 Church St., 7:15pm. Call 954-8896.

East Bay HIV/AIDS 12 Step Support Group: Ongoing. Open to all with HIV who have experience with any 12 step program. Mon. eves., 6:15pm. Info: Paul (510) 465-4311.

Ellipse-Peninsula AIDS Services: Support groups, emotional & practical buddy program, food program and case management for PWAs. 572-9702.

Extra Positives: Social support group for HIV+ men under 40. Info: 522-9477.

FABRIC, a support/social group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning Asian and Pacific Islander youth 25-under, has drop-in every Tues., 6-8pm. GCHP, 30 Pearl St. 575-3939, x318/x504.

Gay Fathers Support Network of Santa Rosa meets first Sun. of every month, 7pm. Info: Mark (707) 523-6941.

Gay/Lesbian Legal Referral Service seeks gay-sensitive law students as Law Clerks, one 3-hr. shift/week at GLRS office, Oakland. Info: 621-3900.

Gay Men's STD/VD Clinic: Testing & treatment by & for gay men, free, every Sun. 5-7 pm. HIV antibody anonymous testing for women & men 12 or older, every Sun., 5-7 pm. 2339 Durant Ave at Dana, Berkeley. Wheelchair accessible. 644-0425 (non-voice TDD 548-8238 for disabled).

Gay Young Spirit, a new gay young men's social group (18-35) with a focus on spirituality, meets every other Thurs., 7:30pm, in SF. Call 703-7181.

Golden Gate Flyers: gay, lesbian and bisexual pilots. 995-4938.

Haight-Ashbury Free Clinics' Drug Detox, Rehabilitation and Aftercare Program, counseling and HIV education, free. Hector, 565-1909.

Healing Alternatives Foundation maintains public HIV/AIDS Treatment & Resource Library. Also Buyer's Club for health products. 1748 Market St. Info: 626-4053.

Healing Circle: Begun as an HIV support group, now a space of healing & growth for all men & women. Meets every Thurs. at The San Francisco Center for Living, 4054 18th St. 7-9 pm. 252-1666.

Health Support Services for PWAs and their caregivers, Wednesdays 6-9pm, Marin Treatment Center, 1466 Lincoln Ave., San Rafael. Registration: 457-3755.

Hepatitis "B" Testing and vaccinations for young (15-23) gay and bisexual men, free. Berkeley Free Clinic, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley. Sun., 5-7pm. (510) 644-0425.

HIV/AIDS Services at Operation Concern: Ongoing support groups, individual and couples counseling, drop-in groups every week. Issues for HIV- men, men with AIDS/ARC, partners and survivors. For information/intake, call Jill, 626-7000 x199. Operation Concern, 1853 Market St.

HIV and African-American Gay/Bisexual Men support groups every Wed., 6:30-8pm. Brothers Network, 973 Market, Suite 650. 356-8140.

HIV Basics: An Update with Kathleen A. Clanon, M.D., free. Tues., July 18, 6:30pm. Rm 1200C. Kaiser Permanente Med. Cntr., 280 W. MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. (510) 596-6848.

HIV Care offers the latest clinical trials from the AmFAR community-based trial network and private industry, free to participants. Info: Sher Vieira, 353-6215.

HIV Negative Gay Men's Support Group in the South Bay: meets second and fourth Wed. of each month, 7pm. ARIS, 1550 The Alameda, Suite 100, San Jose. Info: Pat Duffy, 408-293-2747.

HIV Positive Drop-in Group: Free, every Tues., 7pm. MCC-SF, 150 Eureka. 863-4434.

HIV Positive Youth Group, 18-25, meets every Wed., 7pm. ARIS, 1550 The Alameda, Suite 100, San Jose. (408) 293-2747.

Housing and Client Assistance Program for PWAs provides emergency housing and financial help to residents of San Mateo Co. Mental Health Assn. of San Mateo Co.: 368-9989.

Immune Enhancement Project treats persons with HIV-related illness using a program of traditional Chinese medicine and herbal supplements. Info: 252-8711.

Iris Center: Women's counseling and recovery services for women with HIV, no/low fee. 333 Valencia St. Info: 864-2364.

Lambda Youth and Family Empowerment Program (LYFE): Peer support and mentoring programs for lesbian/ gay/ bisexual/ transgender youth. 565-7681.

Legal Services for Children's H.O.P.E. Project provides social and legal services to low-income HIV affected families. Info: 863-3762.

Lesbian/Bisexual Women's Rap Group: Open to women of all ages, drop in every Tues., 7pm, except first Tues. of each month. Spectrum. Center for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Concerns, 1000 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., San Anselmo. Info: Lea, 457-1115, ext. 201.

Linea de Ambiente: Information, referral and emotional support for gay, lesbian and bi latinos regarding immigration, HIV, social services, a project of Gente Latina de Ambiente (GELAAM). 243-9534.

Lyon-Martin Women's Health Center: Primary health care for women by women. Counseling, anonymous testing, prevention education, support groups for HIV + women. 1748 Market St. 565-7667.

LYRIC Youth Talkline seeks volunteers, especially people of color, transgenders and people under 18. Call Anne or Olga, 703-6150.

Malaysian Gay and Lesbian Group: a social support group. Thomas, 789-8042.

The Mark Pope Career Counseling Center: a non-profit career counseling agency serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities of the Bay Area. 760 Market St., Suite 962. 296-8024.

MCC Chronic/Life-Threatening Support Group: Every Wed., 1-3pm, at MCC, 150 Eureka St. Free, drop-in. Call 863-4434.

Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Support Group offers ongoing support groups for the HIV community, partners, friends and family. No fees. **Also: seeks volunteers** in conjunction with HIV Services at St. Mary's. 863-1581.

Mothers Organizing Mothers working to change public attitudes and policies on AIDS. Meets 2nd Wed. of every month, 7pm. Call 922-4639 or 221-6651 for information.

NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt seeks volunteers for archiving, data entry, community outreach, sewing, more. Call Mike Moreno at 882-5500.

National Association of People With AIDS Fax is a fax-on-demand system which provides free and up-to-date information on HIV funding, grants, insurance, benefits, legal issues and more. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call NAPWA FAX: 202-789-2222.

National Association for Visually Handicapped helps people with partial eyesight by supplying visual aids, a free service for SF residents who are HIV+ and losing eyesight. Call for appt.: 221-3201.

Native American AIDS Project: Support, resources and advocacy for Native Americans/ Alaskan Natives and their families affected by HIV. 1540 Market St., Suite 425. Info/intake: 522-2460.

Pacific Center: Gay and bisexual men's HIV/AIDS support group, Weds., 7pm. 1250 Pine St. #301, Walnut Creek. (510) 939-7711.

Pride & Prejudice: a welcoming group to queer youth meets every Tues., 6pm, at Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, 1748 Market St., Suite 201. Call Nicole at 565-7681.

Project HOPE offers HIV prevention peer counseling to gay, bisexual and transgender men of color. Call 356-8114.

Project Open Hand provides free home-delivered hot meals and free groceries to anyone with symptomatic HIV in San Francisco and Alameda Counties. Various ethnic and restricted diets available, plus free nutritional counseling. No waiting

list. Call 1-800-551-MEAL.

Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida provides peer counseling, legal assistance, workshops, therapy and housing referrals, free. 864-7278.

Psychotherapy group for gay men explores issues of intimacy, low fee 12-week process groups. Call for info/intake: Operation Concern, 626-7000, ext. 126.

Q Action: Work with other queer boys to stop HIV transmission among young gay and bi men. Info: 621-7177.

Qi Gong for Health: \$1 per class. Mon., Wed., 5:30pm. 50 Oak St., 3rd fl. 255-0265.

Qi Gong for People with HIV: \$1 per class. Mon., Wed. 11am; Thurs. 6pm. American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine Community Clinic, 450 Connecticut St. Info: 282-9603.

Quan Yin Healing Arts Center Non-profit clinic provides affordable acupuncture & Chinese herbal therapies; treatment for people living with HIV, chronic hepatitis, PMS & other gynecological imbalances, Stop Smoking Clinic. Tues.-Fri., 1-6:30 pm, Sat. 9 am-3 pm. 861-4964.

Radical Women: Business mtg, 2nd & 4th Thurs. of the month. 7pm. Valencia Hall, 523-A Valencia St. 864-1278.

re plen ish offers individual and group retreats for professional caregivers in the HIV community. Info: Kay, 864-5140 or write PO Box 410592, SF 94141.

Richard M. Cohen Residence, SF's first assisted-living residence for people disabled by AIDS, needs volunteers (call 558-0503) and household donations (call Wayne April, 282-6209).

SF Gay & Lesbian Immigration and Asylum Rights Task Force meets first Thurs. of every month, 7pm, 870 Market St., Rm. 1213. Offers support groups for gay immigrants and their lovers, friends. Shannon, 392-6257.

San Mateo County AIDS Program: provides prevention, health care, services and advocacy. Volunteer Resources Coordinator: 573-2488. Information: 573-2588.

Shanti Project's Latino Program: specifically serves Latino men, women, adolescents and children infected with and affected by HIV. Provides help with emotional peer counseling and practical support. For more information, call 864-CARE.

Tambayan is a support network for gay, lesbian and transgender Filipinos in the Bay Area. Thurs., 7pm at Filipino Task Force on AIDS, 1540 Market St., Suite 325. 703-9880.

Under One Roof, the Shop for AIDS Relief, seeks volunteers to work on the sales floor and in the office. Call Mary Beth, 252-9430.

Send Health and Community Listings to: Calendar Editor, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 196476

The following person(s) are doing business as CMS CONSULTING, INTERNATIONAL, 650 Gennesse Street, San Francisco, CA 94127: CRISTINA STEWART, 650 Gennesse Street, San Francisco, CA 94127. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 15, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed CRISTINA STEWART. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 15, 1995.

June 22, 29, 1995, July 06, 13, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 196644

The following person(s) are doing business as I.S.S., 3890 17th Street, #2, San Francisco, CA 94114: ERIC JOHN SAVOIA, 3890 17th Street, #2, San Francisco, CA 94114-2047. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 22, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed ERIC JOHN SAVOIA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 22, 1995.

June 29, 1995, July 06, 13, 20, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 196548

The following person(s) are doing business as WORLD WIDE WEB MARKETING ALTERNATIVES, 487-B Doleres Street, San Francisco, CA 94110: GEORGE HEYMONT, 487-B Doleres Street, San Francisco, CA 94110 and WINSTON HENLEY JR., 537 14th Street, #3, San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 19, 1995. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed GEORGE HEYMONT. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 19, 1995.

June 22, 29, 1995, July 06, 13, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 196582

The following person(s) are doing business as BOOKS AND RECORDS, 2261 Market Street, Suite 242, San Francisco, CA 94114: ERSKINE C. WOOD, 53B Hardtford Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 20, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed ERSKINE C. WOOD. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 20, 1995.

June 29, 1995, July 06, 13, 20, 1995.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 970483

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of YVONNE JESSICA CODON for change of name. The application of YVONNE JESSICA CODON for change of name having been filed in Court, an it appearing from said application SHE has filed an application proposing that HER name be changed to YVONNE JESSICA GUZMAN. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 1st day of August, 1995, at 9 o'clock AM., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further order that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 20 day of June, 1995.

June 29, 1995, July 6, 13, 20, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 196383

The following person(s) are doing business as HOMO O BAROQUE, 915 Elizabeth Street, San Francisco, CA 94114: PAUL M MATIJAK, 915 Elizabeth Street, San Francisco, CA 94114 and ROBERT W. GOODING, 1457 Hayes Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 24, 1995. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed PAUL M. MATIJAK. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 13, 1995.

June 29, 1995, July 06, 13, 20, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 196594

The following person(s) are doing business as LOOKOUT DESIGN, 23 Kronquist Court, San Francisco, CA 94131: PAUL LEVINSON, 23 Kronquist Court, San Francisco, CA 94131. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 21, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed PAUL LEVINSON. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 21, 1995.

June 29, 1995, July 06, 13, 20, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 196498

The following person(s) are doing business as VAN NESS BAKERY & CAFE, 1122 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94109: YAM INVESTMENT GROUP CORP., 898 W. Grand Avenue, Oakland, CA 94607. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 16, 1995. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed MENG SUY KOR. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 16, 1995.

June 22, 29, 1995, July 06, 13, 1995.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS STATEMENT FILE NO. 0170501-00

The following person has abandon the use of the fictitious business known as TWENTY-FIFTH STREET WORKOUT, 1500 Castro Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on June 25, 1993.

Name and address of registrant: BRIAN DANIEL, 4205 25th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. This business was conducted by a individual. Signed: BRIAN DANIEL. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on the date June 13, 1995 Gregory J. Diaz, County Clerk-Recorder, By Kevin Wong.

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 195566
The following person(s) are doing business as NOA LABS, 3435 Army Street, #203, San Francisco, CA 94110: FRED ADLER, 3435 Army Street, #203, San Francisco, CA 94110 and GARY ROSEN, 3435 Army Street, #203, San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 10, 1995. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed FRED ADLER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 10, 1995.

July 06, 13, 20, 27, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 196490
The following person(s) are doing business as THIRD TIME'S A CHARM, 955 Hyde Street, #2, San Francisco, CA 94109: CRAIG L. SULLIVAN, 955 Hyde Street, #2, San Francisco, CA 94109 and JUDITH BORLASA, 129 Doreen Court, Vallejo, CA 94589. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed CRAIG L. SULLIVAN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 15, 1995.

July 06, 13, 20, 27, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 196779
The following person(s) are doing business as D B Y CATERING, 326 Shaw Road, South San Francisco, CA 94080: DANNY BING HOM YEUNG, 3782 Cork Place, South San Francisco, CA 94080. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 28, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed DANNY B. H. YEUNG. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 28, 1995.

July 06, 13, 20, 27, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 196836
The following person(s) are doing business as DOLLAR EXPRESS CAFE, 2729 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94110: BO JING HE, 3671 35th Avenue, Oakland, CA 94619 and ZHENG FENG SI, 1626 26th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122 and HENRY W. CHEUNG, 3170 Santa Paula Drive, Concord, CA 94518. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of April 3, 1995. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed BO JING HE. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 30, 1995.

July 06, 13, 20, 27, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 196802
The following person(s) are doing business as PANDRAGON BAKERY, 400 Hayes Street, San Francisco, CA 94102: CHANG YAM, 215 Del Prado Drive, Daily City, CA 94015 and SAUANG VILAYSACK, 13835 Aurora Drive, San Leandro, CA 94577. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of January 01, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed CHANG YAM. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 29, 1995.

July 06, 13, 20, 27, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 196547
The following person(s) are doing business as PABBLE'S CAFE, 2852 Diamond Street, San Francisco, CA 94131: YOON SANG LEZ, 430 Monterey Blvd, San Francisco, CA 94427. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 19, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed YOON SANG LEZ. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 19, 1995.

July 13, 20, 27, 1995, August 3, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 196901
The following person(s) are doing business as 1) ELISA'S RESTAURANT, 2) ELIZ'S RESTAURANT, 3) ELIZA RESTAURANT, 4) ELIZAS RESTAURANT, 5) ELIZA'S RESTAURANT, 6) ERIC'S RESTAURANT, 205 Oak Street, San Francisco, CA 94102: PING J SUNG, 263 Ralston Street, San Francisco, CA 94132 and TRAN THUY LUONG, 263 Ralston Street, San Francisco, CA 94132. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of July 05, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed TRAN T. LUONG. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on July 05, 1995.

July 13, 20, 27, 1995, August 3, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 196496
The following person(s) are doing business as ROADHOUSE COFFEE CO., 5191-B 3rd Street, San Francisco, CA 94124: JEFF M. RAFNSON, 1670 Alabama Street, San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 08, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed JEFF RAFNSON. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 16, 1995.

June 22, 29, 1995, July 06, 13, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 196534
The following person(s) are doing business as BLUE DESERT PRODUCTIONS, 355 Buena Vista, #205W, San Francisco, CA 94117: KEITH KEILMAN, 355 Buena Vista, #205W, San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed KEITH KEILMAN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 19, 1995.

June 22, 29, 1995, July 06, 13, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 196428
The following person(s) are doing business as SINGLE SERVICES PUBLICATIONS, 378 Golden Gate Avenue, #242, San Francisco, CA 94102: LYNN DAVIS ALMAND, 378 Golden Gate Avenue, #242, San Francisco, CA 94102. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed L.D. ALMAND. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 14, 1995.

June 22, 29, 1995, July 06, 13, 1995.

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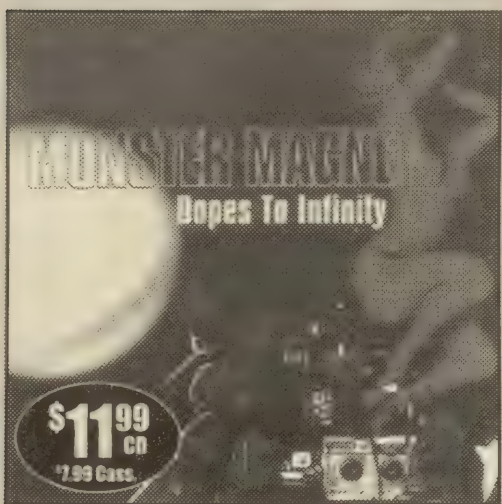
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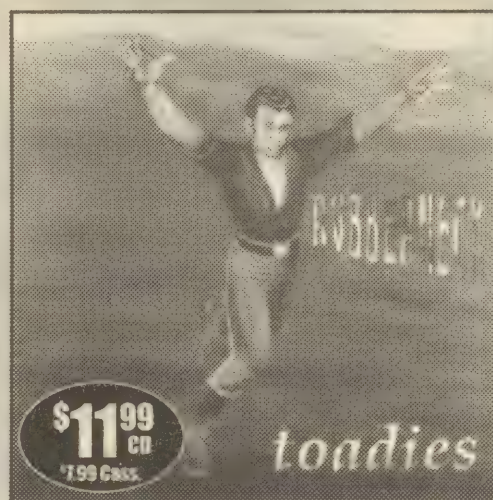
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Kitty Foiled

by Robert Julian

The blessing of independently produced films is their ability to tell it like it is — or to shatter “what is” by means of a particular artistic vision. In her debut film, *Party Girl*, director and co-writer Daisy von Scherler Mayer has, unfortunately, done neither. *Party Girl* is an occasionally amusing, but amazingly gutless comedy that never fulfills its tremendous potential.

Parker Posey portrays the orphaned 24-year-old Mary, lost in Manhattan, trying to make ends meet by throwing rent parties while avoiding gainful employment. Her party circuit companions include Guillermo Diaz as the deejay Leo; Anthony DeSando as her gay best friend Derrick; and Omar Townsend as Mustafa, the cute Lebanese guy who sells falafel sandwiches from a sidewalk stand. Mary's rent-party ways get sidelined in the opening moments of *Party Girl* when the cops show up and haul her away to the slammer for selling liquor without a license and possessing a “controlled substance.”

It's time for Mary to get a life.

Reluctantly facing reality, Mary takes a job working for her librarian godmother, Judy, as a library clerk. But her nights on the club scene continue, creating the central conflict of the film: to be ordinary, or not to be ordinary. In the pivotal role of Mary's godmother, director/writer Mayer casts her own real life mother, Sasha von Scherler. Mistake. Big mistake. As Judy, von Scherler poses, postures, and mugs, destroying the comic potential of her nose-to-the-grindstone role by acting it to death. She never transcends stereotype. Ultimately, Meyer's tendency to write and direct all the supporting players as predictable “types” eviscerates *Party Girl*.

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'Party Girl'

Parker Posey as Mary in *Party Girl*

Doggy Style

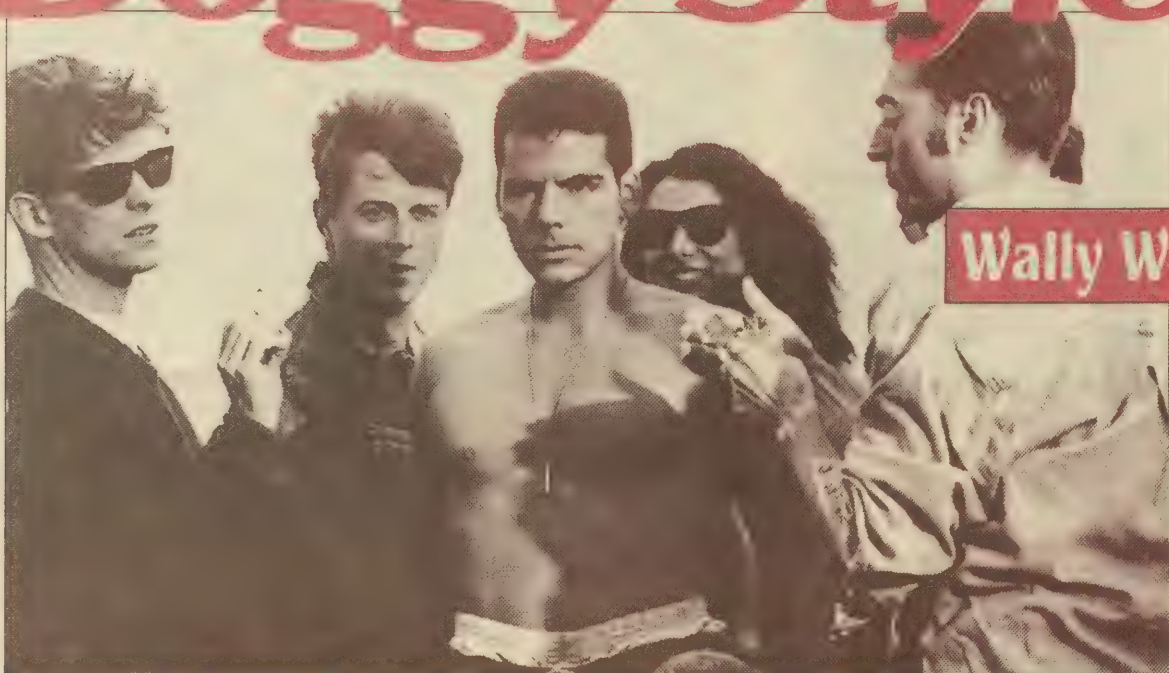


Photo: Lex Remlin

Wally White's Comedic Miscalculation

by Robert Julian

The first ten minutes of *Lie Down With Dogs* contain some inspired lunacy — buffed boys display the opening credits on the waistbands of their jockey shorts; man-on-the-street interviews call for lots of big dicks onscreen; and wackos shout “boycott this film” directly into the camera. But Wally White — writer, producer, director, and lead actor — ultimately delivers much less than he promises. His admittedly autobiographical queer sex farce goes downhill rapidly, degenerating into an unfunny collage of lame camp and sniggering self-indulgence.

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THEATRE

Chad Jones
on *Jelly's Last Jam*

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THEATRE

Mr. Nobody's
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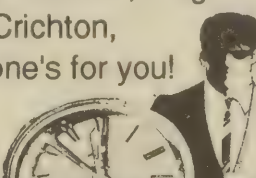
Nisa Donnelly
on *Amnesty*

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by Daniel Mangin

Is it just us or has this been a dull week in Queertown? Things were getting so desperate we were about to trot out the dish we never used during our early-'90s stint writing this column about the famous writer who prostrated himself before Mr. Marcus's manhood (after said writer came to town and worked the knickers of all those famous-writer-wannabes into knots). It's not that we're afraid of anyone, Virginia, we're just not that desperate.

Just make something up," offered a friendly but unhelpful waiter at Icon, but we can't and won't start rumors merely to fill a column, for as penitent du jour **Hugh Grant** has proven, manufactured dirt can never live up to life's true grit and grime.

So we dug deeper and noticed that: *The Incredibly True Adventure of Two Girls in Love* director **Maria Maggenti** has gotten mega publicity mileage out of being a lesbian who's been dating a man for two years (we in the press being unable to resist philosophical conundrums such as this). Maggenti even turned the experience — and the scorn she's had to endure from the sapphic set — into a *Village Voice*



Photo: Marc Geller

Maria Maggenti

feature. Her article raises some important issues about "labeling," though a bitchy lesbian pal of ours feels Maggenti doth whine a bit too much.

Producer **Christine Vachon** (*Poison*, *Swoon*, et al.) must have picked up on this, for she cut loose with a snappy retort two weeks later in a letter to the *Voice's* editor. Our favorite line: "I guess all of us square, politically correct dykes who still like to fuck other women are suppressing the expressive freedom of the real radicals — straight people who are gay but look and act like straight people." Touché.

Scott Thompson may be one of television's funniest comedians, but is girlfriend getting bitter or what? First there was that diatribe about lack of support in the gay press. Now, apparently miffed about not being asked to audition for parts in the upcoming *To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything, Julie Newmar* and *Jeffrey*, the *Kids in the Hall* comic had this to say at the close of a recent live taping of Comedy Central's *Out There III* special: "To the directors of *To Wong Foo* and *Jeffrey*, I have three words for you — straight to video!"

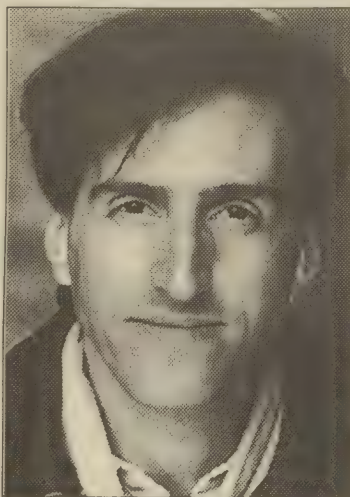


Photo: Jerry Eaderesto

Paul Rudnick

Truth in jest, as the good Dr. Freud used to say? Though we can't speak for the *To Wong Foo* team, our studio mole informs us that Thompson's name was high on *Jeffrey* screenwriter **Paul Rudnick's** dream cast list, only it was Thompson who backed out of auditions because of his demanding *Kids* schedule.

Eduardo Machado's nicely crafted playlet "Closet Games" features that alabaster cutie **Brian Thorstenson** as a queenie fag — it's a big stretch, of course, but Mr. T manages — whose straight-acting lover, the sturdy **David Rasner**, has an attraction

to baseball that masks internalized homophobia. "Closet Games" is part of *Hitting for the Cycle: Nine Short Plays About Baseball*, at the Magic through July. In another segment as an ump, our Mr. T has a fey, faintly slapstick intro, but later switches gears and sounds downright butch as he shouts, "Play ball!" So versatile, that Brian.

Those lovable campmeisters the Sick and Twisted Players are holding a '70s fashion show July 21, 8 p.m., at the Castro, followed by a screening of *The Stepford Wives* (**Paula Prentiss** at her finest, **Mary Stuart Masterson** at her tiniest). **Arturo Galstar** (a.k.a. **Patsy Cline**) is the "femcee"; audience members are encouraged to don their tackiest '70s apparel. The evening benefits *Life Begins at 40*, **Marc Huestis's** latest video project (and isn't she lucky **Bob Julian** isn't still writing this column?), in which the affable *Sex Is...* director probes the meaning of those deep, tragic crevices fanning out from the corners of her eyes.



The Stepford Wives

Jenni Olson (a.k.a. ye olde boxing dyke) saw a trailer before *Forget Paris* (a definite thumbs-downer says she) plugging the Will Rogers Institute, which counts among its many good deeds helping college students stand up to peer pressure to consume alcohol. Representing fresh-faced college boydom gone alkie is none other than fresh-faced **Raoul O'Connell**, whose most recent gig was *Frisk* (a.k.a. the film SF loves to hate), in which he doesn't stand up very well to queer pressure, either.

Maybe **President Clinton** should extend his plea for greater civility in American life to filmgoers. Take the current plight of **Brandon Judell**, whose non-B.A.R. gigs include the head-reviewer slot at Critics' Choice on America Online. Get that public mad and you be in a heap o'trouble. BJ (as his friends and tricks call him) first got into hot water with a pan of *Braveheart* that stuck it to *Mel the Homophobe* for fag-baiting. Then came the rave for *Batman Forever* and a thumbs down on *Apollo 13*, which he found "dull."

This is a clear indicator of his limitations as a movie critic and as a human being," declared one onliner. "Brandon Judell must have got-

ten his reviewer's license at a discount store," typed another. Also: "The fact that I personally disagree with his lifestyle has no bearing on my opinion of him as a person." Added one wiseacre, "Maybe *Ghandi* needed a good fight scene to keep it from being boring. Perhaps *Driving Miss Daisy* could have used **Freddy Krueger** as the driver and maybe *Forrest Gump* would have been better if Forrest hadn't been so dumb." These folks take no prisoners — makes us appreciate our gentle SF readers all the more.

All Het Up at the Met" was the headline to a saucy *London Times* magazine story about the legal action one **Marta Brennan** has brought against New York's famed Metropolitan Opera. "Opera has always been full of raging queens and beautiful boys, but now America's first heterosexual discrimination suit could put them all back in the closet," a drophead continued. The brouhaha started when Brennan, an assistant director at the Met, complained to General Manager

Joe Volpe about "numerous objectionable pictures of young males in various stages of nudity" plastered on the walls in areas where she worked. When Volpe subsequently didn't renew her contract, Brennan sued.

The long-range effects of said tizzy may not be pretty. For instance, the *Times* reported, higher-ups at the Met are now debating the efficacy of future performances of **Benjamin Britten's** *Death in Venice*, which is based on **Thomas Mann's** novella about an aging man's unrequited love for a beautiful boy. (Pardon us for failing to divine a significant connection.)

Thanks to the reader who stopped us on the street, concerned that our publisher might ax us for the impertinent comments we made last week about the pay scale here. Actually, upon our Friday visit to the office, Mr. R greeted us with a bag full of erotic video classics and said he hoped Mr. **Bill** (ye olde husband of oh so many years) would find them engorging. And he did, especially that syncopated head-bobbing sequence in the 1993 *Payne in the Ass* (which would more accurately have been titled "Everyone in Payne's Ass"). ▼

Home Away From Home for the Art House Crowd

Landmark Venture

by Robert Julian

The Castro Theatre has the film festival, but films of interest to San Francisco's gay/lesbian community generally enjoy their commercial run at a Landmark Theatre. When the lights go down and that soothing, feminine British voice proclaims, "The best films in the world have a home at Landmark Theatres," it is a rare convergence of hype and fact.

Tomorrow's opening of the Embarcadero Center Cinema multiplex gives the gay/art house/foreign film crowd five new reasons to celebrate.

Located one flight above street level, the new cinema boasts five screens that range in size from 120 to 300 seats. In air-conditioned comfort, viewers will have a chance to experience everything from wide-screen format to 16mm; Dolby sound; and for the hearing impaired - special infrared listening devices. Free validated parking in the underground garage is included with all weekend and evening performances. All this...and cupholders, too.

The three opening films are *Party Girl*, *A Great Day in*



Wild Reeds

Photo: First Look Pictures

Harlem and Andre Techine's coming-of-age story, *Wild Reeds*. According to Landmark's director of marketing, Cary Jones, the organization specializes in "Hollywood films that are produced for a sophisticated audience, American independent productions and foreign films. New York City is Landmark's number-one market for these films with San Francisco and Los Angeles competing for the number-two spot." It depends "on the film," says Jones. "Some

films will do better in San Francisco than Los Angeles, and vice-versa."

With over 20 years in the business, Landmark (a division of the Samuel Goldwyn Theatre Group) is doing well with its niche marketing concept - well enough to throw almost 10 million dollars into the development of this latest multiplex.

The company often books films from the San Francisco gay film festival directly into Landmark after the festival has closed. This year, Landmark took *Wigstock*, *The Incredibly True Adventure of Two Girls in Love* and *Love and Human Remains*. Last week, 25 percent of the films playing in San Francisco's Landmark Theatres were of specific gay/lesbian interest.

Continuing a tradition that paid off handsomely for Landmark in 1994 with *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*, the new Embarcadero cinema will open *An Awfully Big Adventure* on July 21 (the Luis Bunuel classic *Belle de Jour* opens there the same day). This time, Hugh Grant (the new Mr. Hollywood Boulevard) plays the bitchy gay director of a small English theatre company. Although Landmark's "terribly tasteful" image would probably preclude such publicity stunts, a personal appearance by Divine Brown at the opening couldn't hurt box office. No one would be better

equipped than Ms. Brown to comment on the size of that particular adventure. ▼

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—Stacy R., Boston

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Parker Posey and Anthony DeSando in *Party Girl*, one of the films opening Landmark's new Embarcadero One Theatre.

Kitty Foiled

Continued from cover

When the film works, it's because of Parker Posey's deadpan Mary. With the help of costume designer Michael Clancy, Posey's Mary looks and sounds right on target - somewhere between a Breck Girl and Dracula's daughter. But the script (co-written with Harry Birkmayer) and Mayer's direction fail to capture the grittiness of Manhattan.

They also fail to develop, in any meaningful or comic fashion, the unique '90s phenomenon of alcohol and drug abuse arising out of simple urban ennui. As a result, the film devolves into an ordinary girl-meets-boy story with a sitcom

happy ending that makes television's *Happy Days* look like cutting-edge satire. With only minor revisions, *Party Girl* could be a 1930s Ginger Rogers flick.

Music supervisor Bill Coleman assembles some good tracks for the club scenes, but they're not enough to put the film over the top. However, any filmmaker who gives the first two lines of a movie to Lady Bunny - then makes her disappear for the next two hours - deserves credit. For this, but little else, we can thank Daisy von Scherler Mayer. ▼

Party Girl opens Friday, July 14 at Landmark's One Embarcadero Cinema Complex.

"A feature-length gay 'Gidget!'"
—Michael Musto, OUT MAGAZINE

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Andre Techine's *Wild Reeds* Melrose Reeds

by Chris Culwell

Andre Techine's *Wild Reeds* is one of those big sophisticated numbers you'd expect from a director who came of age looking at European films of the '50s and '60s, a time when cinema was unbearably serious. You can tell as much because everything in Techine's latest feature aspires to a similar profundity. Not the gauche kind of sagacity that assaults you with clever chatter and endless plot points, but the kind of emotional significance that accretes slowly over the course of the film and is designed to take viewers by surprise.

Yes, *Wild Reeds* has the look and feel of lyric cinema, but there similarity to some of Techine's own films from the mid-'70s, and to others by Godard, Truffaut, and Antonioni comes to an end. For though *Wild Reeds* looks good, its effects are just that, effects, an inflated expression of grief here, an extended piece of paradisaal imagery there, all sewn up in a package that, despite all the preening, feels fragmented and incomplete. Many ideas are sketched in this coming-of-age tour de force but none results in a sufficiently arresting picture.

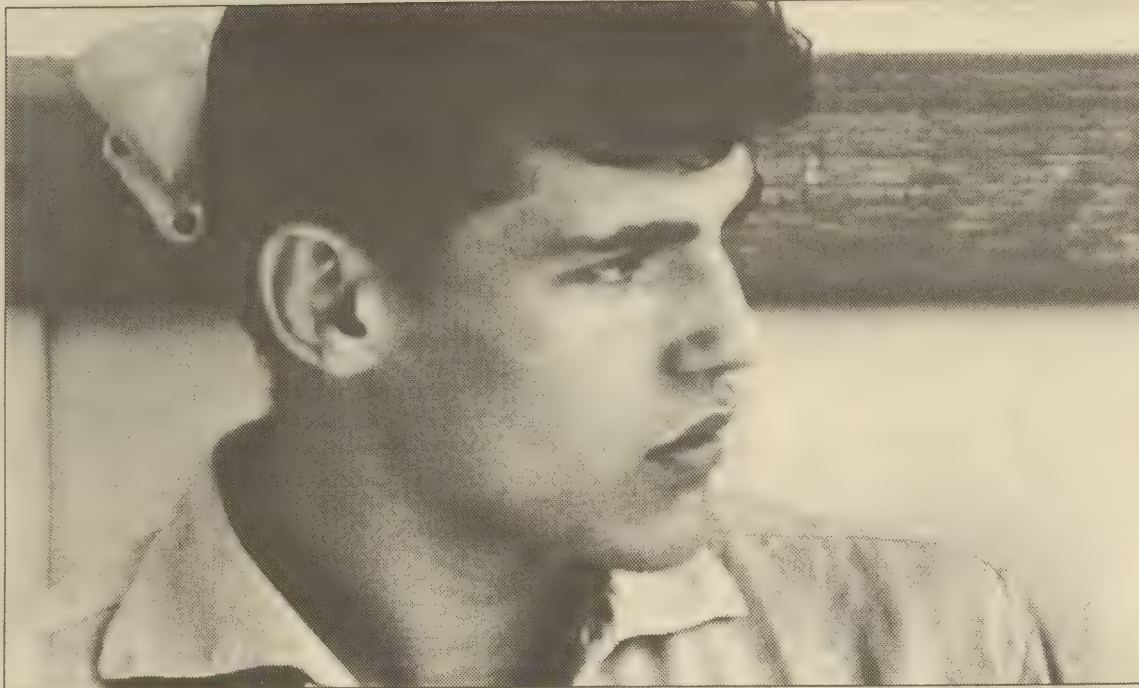
Set in the south of France in 1962, *Wild Reeds* focuses on a trio of culturally insulated teenagers at a boarding school trying to keep it all together as they balance academic pressures, emerging sexualities, and a growing feeling in each that the world outside the lycee is a

more real and dangerous place than they'd ever imagined.

Francois (Gael Morel) is an introverted teenager struggling with his homosexuality. He's in love with Serge (Stephane Rideau), a handsome, desultory butch with whom he entertains a casual queer fling. To undersexed Serge this dalliance is about as meaningful as a trip to the john; for Francois, it's true love. Francois reveals his queer secret to Maite (Elodie Bouchez), a young woman who'd hoped that she and Francois might become lovers.

That life is not as picture books would have it is realized by each with the arrival at the university of Henri (Frederic Gorny), an Algerian-born French National who openly opposes his country's support of the emerging Algerian independence movement. (The film takes place at the end of the Algerian war, which, in addition to polarizing Algeria, set off a powder keg of political unrest in France.) Hostile, arrogant, but more worldly than the others, Henri's presence at the school has a destabilizing effect that propels Francois, Serge and Maite beyond the safe horizon of their cloistered world. Soon, Francois' affections shift, if only momentarily, to Henri. Maite, too, becomes enamored of Henri, and Serge begins telling stories to Francois of how he will soon be married with children.

Techine has the rudiments of an engrossing story here, engrossing because the film promises insight into minds pre-



Stephane Rideau in Andre Techine's *Wild Reeds*.

cariously straddling the starkly contrasting worlds of adolescence and adulthood. But the promise is unfulfilled. Part of the problem is that Techine's attempts to make the suffering of teenagers seem not only plausible but sympathetic are rarely convincing, and in several instances are cause for unexpected mirth, as when simpleton Serge turns to Francois and says with unchecked avoirdupois, "I must be free," which sounds about as plausible coming from him as a Shakespeare love sonnet would from the gutter lips of Roseanne.

False too is the Camus-tinged

description Henri gives of a dream in which he encounters death. Such eloquent language and depth of feeling are out of sync with a character whose social skills are limited to hurling insults and fire bombs.

No personality

Directorial incongruities aside, the thing that keeps *Wild Reeds* firmly earthbound is the utter banality of the characters, who, quite simply, are so lacking in personality that it's impossible to see any of them, with the exception of Francois, as prime movers in other people's destinies.

Maite is psychologically inscrutable. She's offered to us as the mature one, however, by film's end she's the one emotionally hemorrhaging with a broken heart. Her sudden attraction to Henri is completely unconvincing. Aside from the fact that he's utterly loathsome, Maite, in an earlier scene, explains to Francois why she finds men like Henri detestable. Bouchez must have realized the inconsistency, for when called upon to express grief over Henri's departure, she overcompensates for the disparity by offering the most unpleasant expressions of anguish this side of *The Exorcist*.

Just the opposite of Maite, Serge is a complete blank. So blank in fact some will mistake him for a piece of attractive driftwood come ashore. No doubt he's been tossed into the center of this film solely for his shapely lips and broad shoulders, but the absence of light behind the eyes makes him sin-

gularly unappealing. How is it that Francois loves him?

Henri is also bereft of interest. We are supposed to find him mysterious, yet all we see is hostility, unleavened by any kind of psychological reflection. He's just so many political sentiments dropped into the film to provide Techine with just the right amount of socio-political fervor to elevate the film's tone, so that no one will know they're watching a Gallic *Melrose Place* (without the glam trappings).

Gael Morel shines

The only character in *Wild Reeds* who possesses authenticity is Francois, whose attempts to deal with his homosexuality are touching and honest. Several of his scenes are so simple and moving they carry the impress of autobiography: one in which Francois stands in front of a mirror and repeats over and over to himself that he is a faggot, and another in which he visits the village poofster for advice on how to live as a homosexual. Gael Morel's performance is finely wrought, shuttling elegantly between carefree youth and introverted queer burdened with an inexplicable, potentially dangerous love. (Contemporary homosexuals may bristle at Morel's homosexual-as-maimed-gull portrayal, but this is 1962 in the French provinces; Stonewall is a long ways off.)

It's too bad *Wild Reeds* isn't more about Francois and less these other sundry characters, who, like the overexposed snippet of Samuel Barber's *Adagio for Strings* played throughout, are just so many details in search of a plan. ▼

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Wild Reeds opens July 14 at Landmark's Embarcadero Cinema Complex.

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Doggie

Continued from cover

White plays Tommie, a down-on-his-luck Manhattanite who decides to escape to Provincetown for the summer. With no means of support other than his credit cards, he sets out to land a houseboy gig in P-town, a decision that leads to a series of encounters with the denizens of local inns and saloons, and a seemingly endless summer of boy-meets-dysfunctional boy. High on the list of Tommie's sexual peccadilloes is Tom (Randy Becker), a Latin hustler who uses Tommie for cigarettes, cheeseburgers, and anything else he can extort from him.

The gopher-faced White casts himself as a queer Tom Ewell for the '90s. Short, balding, and nerdy, his Tommie is a twentysomething get-a-lifer who longs for good times, gainful employment, or a serious relationship — whichever comes first. In a disturbingly archetypal way, he's always looking for Mr. Right but settling for Mr. Right Away. This promising set-up could have resulted in hilarious satire, but the ultimate failure of the film derives from the inherent weakness of White's script.

Mean-spirited

As a writer, Wally White's most disastrous choice is his failure to allow the story to tell itself. Tommie is constantly turning to the audience to explain his actions or feelings. Sometimes he speaks in voiceover, but usually he faces the camera, babbling self-consciously about the state of his life or commenting on the film itself. This technique rarely

works in film, and *Lie Down With Dogs* is no exception. A skillful writer would work these observations into smart dialogue; and a great director could convey the same meaning through shrewd manipulation of the visual image alone. White accomplishes neither.

The most interesting aspect of White's work is his ability to

full of internalized self-hatred. This quality, which permeates the film, robs *Lie Down With Dogs* of its joy and, ultimately, its humor.

Tommie and his friends drink, fuck, do drugs, and puff incessantly on cigarettes while putting down the dope-smoking town hippie and verbally bashing aging queens who are

ning to the final credits. What begins as a goof, quickly turns mean-spirited.

P-Town ain't Heathcliff

White's failings as writer and director are only compounded by a film that was shot in Provincetown *off season*. This major miscalculation will leave the uninitiated wondering why

rhythm of summer days on the Cape. The typical daily routine is breakfast, beach, shower, nap, tea dance, dinner, party. Days pass seamlessly with a communal *joie de vivre* conspicuously absent from White's neurotic *Dogs*.

When the story lags, it gets a boost from expert musical supervision provided by Jellybean Benitez. One of Madonna's favorite collaborators, Benitez tries to pick up the tempo by laying-in tracks from many existing dance club favorites. But Benitez's work gets pulled under by a rip tide of nihilism. There are moments when Wally White's summer slackers generate a few chuckles, but their plight is more the stuff of tragedy than comedy. Satirizing such confused souls calls for the deft touch of a Jennifer (*Absolutely Fabulous*) Saunders. In the hands of Wally White, it simply flounders.

The characters in *Lie Down With Dogs* reflect tenuous self-esteem: they are, essentially, immature whiners. And this kind of whining, delivered with insufficient ironic sensibility, simply isn't funny. Mid-film, writer/director/actor Wally White has one prescient moment in a telephone booth. Before turning directly to the audience, he explains over the telephone that he doesn't care if people think his film is self-indulgent. "My job as filmmaker," he opines, "is to not be boring." But White fails, even on his own terms. As the film plods along, this one great White hope is dashed on the rocks of unrestrained egomania. ▼

***Lie Down With Dogs* opens July 14 at the Lumiere Theatre.**



Wally White (center) and partners in queenery.

encapsulate some of the more off-the-wall aspects of queer sensibility. Tommie coins the term "square states" to describe gay men he runs into in Provincetown whose dress and demeanor reflect a sensibility that could only arise from one of the cultural backwaters of the United States. But White's script, like his lead character, is

reformed alcoholics. In an interesting reflection of queer ageism, the few older gay men who appear in this film are presented as the objects of scorn. This practice, however revealing, has limited comedic potential. It only serves to undercut the light-hearted tone that might have carried this film successfully from its promising begin-

legions of queers have made P-Town a gay Mecca. Gray skies, deserted avenues, and gloomy abandoned beaches are everywhere in *Lie Down With Dogs*, making Provincetown a melancholy place, poorly suited to comedy. The audience never sees the hordes of gays and lesbians who crowd the sunny streets, establishing the unique

Sextasy Ball More Hype Than Heat



Photo: Michael Mueller

When asked how it was being one of the acts playing the hyped-up *Sextasy Ball*, Kevin McMahon (above) of the glam-industrial band *Prick* said, "Well, it's okay."

That sentiment pretty much summed up the tepid event, which took place last Saturday at the Warfield. Featuring the queer dark-disco of *My Life With The Thrill Kill Kult*, and the sexy techno of *Lords of Acid*, the *Sextasy Ball* promised to be "the wildest and most adventurous party to spin your town."

Maybe in the South, where this tour spent the past month, that was true. "People there didn't seem to know anything about what we were doing," commented McMahon. But here in San Francisco, the crowd of PVC-clad fetish queens and jaded curiosity-seekers had all seen better. ▼ —Adrian Roberts

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This Jelly Jams

by Chad Jones

Jelly's *Last Jam* is an ambitious piece of musical theater. Exhilarating in the sheer beauty of its staging, music and performances, the show is also frustrating in its ultimately disappointing dramatic construct. This sizzling stage biography of Jelly Roll Morton, the self-proclaimed inventor of jazz, opened on Broadway three seasons ago and sports a sleek touring version

that opened at the Golden Gate Theatre last week.

Unlike other musical bios (*Funny Girl*, *Will Rogers Follies*), *Jelly's Last Jam* does not attempt to lionize its subject. On the contrary, this musical, which features new lyrics by Susan Birkenhead added to Morton's original compositions, requires its '90s audience to observe the downward spiral of the protagonist — a tableaux of nasty behavior and bitter mistreatment — and to forgive him in the show's final moments

before he goes on to his final glory. And why should we absolve Jelly of his sins? Because his grandmother/guardian withheld her love from him as a child, which rendered him unable to deal with pain in his adult life.

Fortunately this preachy pop-psychology lesson doesn't fully enter into the show until the last few minutes, so the better part of the evening is spent showcasing some truly fine dancing and hot music that falls into an eminently enjoyable zone wherein the rhythms of jazz are suffused with the ballsy bravado of show music.

The show's title is actually the perfect summation of its plot. This is Jelly's last jam because his life is at an end, and it is time for the Chimney Man to take him on a Dickensian tour through his life to re-live his triumphs and atone for the pain he caused those who loved him most. The story begins in New Orleans in 1891, where Ferdinand Le Menthe Morton was born into Creole gentry. The light-skinned youth was raised by his grandmother, Gran Mimi, and taught to play French opera songs on the piano. But the youth was drawn to the Storyville district of the Big Easy, where he learned about both the blues and life outside the rarefied air of his family home.

Banished by Gran Mimi for spending time with "coon stock," the young Jelly Roll teams up with another loner, Jack the Bear, and the two raise some hell until they arrive in Chicago and Jelly's piano playing introduces the world to jazz. The richer and more famous Jelly gets, the nastier he becomes, until at last he is alone, broke and with little glory.

Kinder, gentler Jelly

On Broadway, Jelly Roll Morton was played by Gregory Hines, but for the tour, Hines has been replaced by his brother and former dancing partner Maurice. Where Gregory is athletic and ultra butch in his dancing, Maurice is more emotional, graceful, which makes for a more piquant Jelly. It's a wonderful conceit that allows Jelly Roll Morton, a legendary jazz pianist, to become a legendary tap dancer. Obviously, piano playing doesn't exactly set the stage aflame in a big production



Photo: Harry Butler

Maurice Hines (right), Freda Payne (center) and Savion Glover (left).

number, so to convey Jelly's passion and talent, he shows us his stuff by dancing to his own music. It's a metaphor that works, and director/book author George C. Wolfe (who directed the Broadway version of *Angels in America*) takes full advantage of his wonderful cast's ability to convey the sultry heat and rollicking power of Morton's music through movement.

Reprising the role he created on Broadway, Savion Glover, who won his first Tony nomination at the age of 12 in *The Tap Dance Kid*, plays Young Jelly, and the first-act tap duet between the young and old Jelly, "The Whole World's Waitin' to Sing Your Song," is a showstopper. Glover is too good to leave behind in Jelly's first-act past, so, luckily for the audience, he's trotted out again in the second act in a futile attempt to inspire the washed-up older Jelly.

In a life spent on the road, one of Jelly's chief pleasures was women. But, in this show at least, there was only one woman who captured his heart: Sweet Anita. As portrayed by Nora Cole, Anita is smart, sexy and too savvy to stick with Jelly. Her big number, "Play the Music for Me" is an excellent showcase for both her acting and singing skills. Jelly and Anita's rocky

relationship is condensed into one long bedroom scene perfectly underscored by the song "Lovin' Is a Lowdown Blues," which ends: "Lovin' is a sly dog, sweet ass, fuck you, lowdown dirty blues." It doesn't get any truer than that.

In many musicals, the book portion — that is, the talking parts — merely provides the link between musical numbers. The audience usually sits patiently acknowledging the bits of drama that are being indicated. But *Jelly's Last Jam*, thanks in large part to Wolfe's book and the skill of the actors, delivers as much drama as it does music. In several key scenes, Hines, Cole, and Stanley Wayne Mathis as Jack the Bear are as good dramatically as they are musically. The drama is also allowed to emerge through the unobtrusive but highly effective stage design by Robin Wagner and the evocative, beautifully designed lighting by Jules Fisher.

Impeccably produced and a joy to behold, *Jelly's Last Jam* is slightly hobbled by psychobabble, but in the end, Jelly's jam kicks. ▼

***Jelly's Last Jam* continues at the Golden Gate Theatre through July 30. Call 776-1999 for ticket information.**

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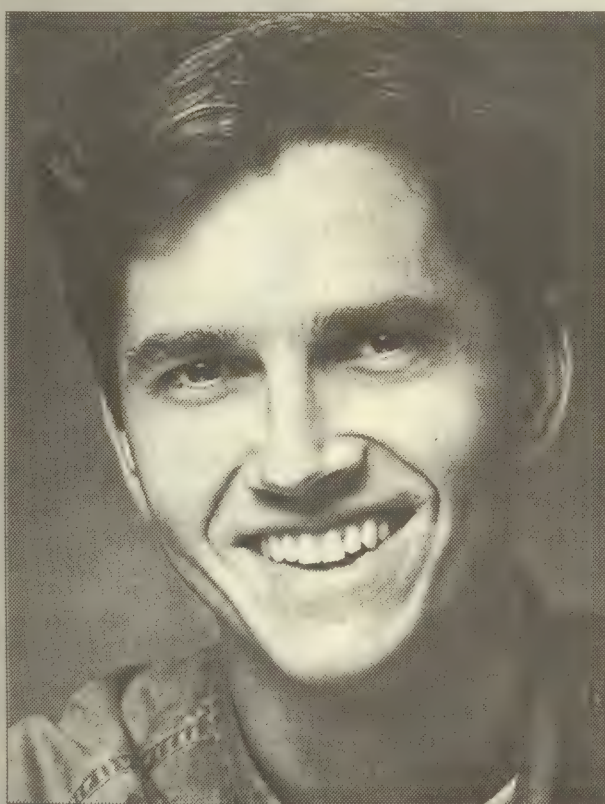
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Mirth-meister

Funny Gay Males' Bob Smith returns to the Bay Area this week with a new show. Culled largely from his new book *Growing Up Gay*, Smith's latest explores humorous anecdotes about coming out to his family ("It was a relief because now I no longer have to hide my feelings about their furniture"), childhood homosexual yearnings (Smith's homoerotic reading of a picture book from the fourth grade called *Ben the Big Bronto*), and early signs of encroaching fagdom ("My tree house had a breakfast nook"). Smith is currently working with Steven Spielberg's Amblin Entertainment on a script about a gay stand-up comic based on Paul Monette's book, *Halfway Home*. Bob Smith performs at the Punchline July 11-15 (397-7573) in San Francisco, and at Rooster T Feathers in Sunnyvale

Broadway Babies and Cabaret of Life

Not So Hip and Way Hip

by Chad Jones

They say that life is a cabaret, old friend, but it's too bad there's so little of it around these days. Thankfully, the legendary Plush Room in the York Hotel is attempting to revitalize the cabaret scene.

Under new management, the Plush Room has already featured a charming debut by local performer Cindy Goldfield as well as a short run by cabaret legends Jackie and Roy. With a performance schedule that is filling up for the next year, it's too bad the Plush Room got stuck with the land-locked cruise ship act *Broadway Babies*, which runs there through next month.

It's not that the three women who comprise the "babies" of the title are bad. Barbara Carlton, Marsha Mercant and Jane Wasser are, in fact, quite talented and a pleasure to watch. It's their show that bites. How many of us need to hear "People" one more time? Sure, "Gotta Get a Gimmick" is a terrific number, but we've all seen quite enough of Gypsy, thank you.

The people who would most enjoy *Broadway Babies* are those who haven't been exposed to much Broadway music. For anyone familiar with the Broadway canon, however, the selections in this two-act opus are just plain dull. "Seventy-Six

Trombones," "The Sound of Music," "I Got Rhythm," "At the Ballet" and "Some People" are all good, but they're not songs we need to hear in an intimate cabaret setting with over-mixed voices.

What the cabaret audience needs to hear is perhaps less familiar fare. *Broadway Babies* does offer some lesser knowns, but not nearly enough. "You've Got Possibilities" from *Superman, The Musical*, and two numbers from Richard Maltby/David Shire revues are as obscure as it gets.

Furthermore, it's hard to accept a Broadway revue that includes only one Stephen Sondheim solo number, not a single Frank Loesser song, no Cole Porter and no Rodgers and Hart. Some theatrical advice from Dr. Spock: change the diapers on these *Babies* and put them to bed.

Hipcoolgroovy

Much more interesting is Mr. Nobody's *Cabaret of Life*, in the dark, dank environs of Cafe du Nord on Sunday evenings through the summer. Over-ambitious and underpolished, this cabaret show has a rough charm and a pleasing sensibility. Hosted by and starring a man known only as Mr. Nobody, the show is comprised of manic, ultradramatic numbers by Nobody and some featured guests. Several Sundays

ago the first guest was Terry Untalan, a Tori Amos-like folk singer who played her fiddle like a guitar and sang a quiet little number called "Peace," then let 'er rip with the tried-and-true "Cry Me a River."

The second guest deserves a show all her own. Clad in a clingy black dress and a string of pearls, Ledisi dug into "Stormy Weather" and made you forget all about Lena Horne. Eyes popping, nostrils flaring, pearls swinging and voice raging, Ledisi is a marvel. Once the audience had climbed back into their seats, she let loose with a jaunty "Them There Eyes," which, sadly, ended her set.

The rest of this neo-Brechtian cabaret exercise is comprised of a mediocre magician and two delightful begowned and bejeweled assistants, one female, one perhaps not.

With cigarette smoke clouding the room, musicians going to town and the performers conveying a sense of fun and pretentious art, Mr. Nobody's *Cabaret of Life* is a hipcool-groovy addition to the cabaret scene. ▼

Broadway Babies continues at the Plush Room through August 20. Call 885-2800 for information. Mr. Nobody's Cabaret of Life continues at Cafe du Nord. Call 252-7842 for information.



Photo: David Allen

Broadway Babies Jane Wasser, Barbara Carlton and Marsha Mercant.

In The Shadow of Death

by Jerry Metzker

In Michael Cristofer's *The Shadow Box*, currently at the Phoenix Theatre, three terminally ill patients, Joe, Brian, and Felicity, are living their last days with their families in cottages adjacent to a Mendocino hospital. (They're part of a psychiatric experiment on the effects of death on families.)

Although Joe seems to have accepted his illness and approaching death, his wife Maggie (Sara Heckelman) travels all the way from New Jersey to bring him home.

Talkative Brian (Louis Parnell) is living his last days with a younger male lover, Mark (John Hogan). Their quiet union is disrupted by Brian's boisterous ex-wife Beverly (Linda Ayres-Frederick), who hopes she can chase death away with an obnoxious personality.

Crotchety Felicity refuses to die until her beloved daughter Claire comes to see her. Long dead, Claire is kept alive by

daily letters forged by her sister Agnes (Kimberley Richards).

One of the things unique about *The Shadow Box* is that it makes death terrifically prosaic. There are no overwrought, weepy death scenes or prolonged farewells, no curses against God or fate. It's just

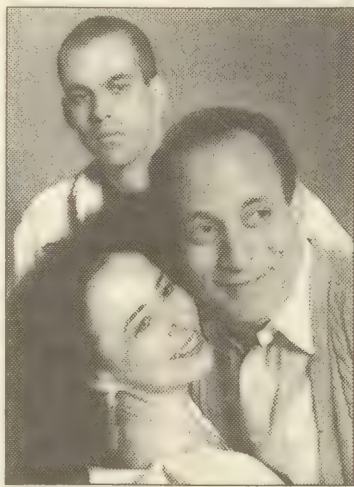
ordinary people facing ordinary death. Considering the lack of melodrama, a good production of *The Shadow Box* must compensate by offering a cast that can really make us feel for these characters.

Bill English's production has successfully captured the ordinariness of the play, but the actual per-

formances seem undernourished, somewhat too bland. There is little indication in this trio that living is—or ever was—extraordinary.

Michele Tedeschi's multilevel set is terrific. ▼

The Shadow Box continues at the Phoenix Theatre through July 30. Call 626-9269



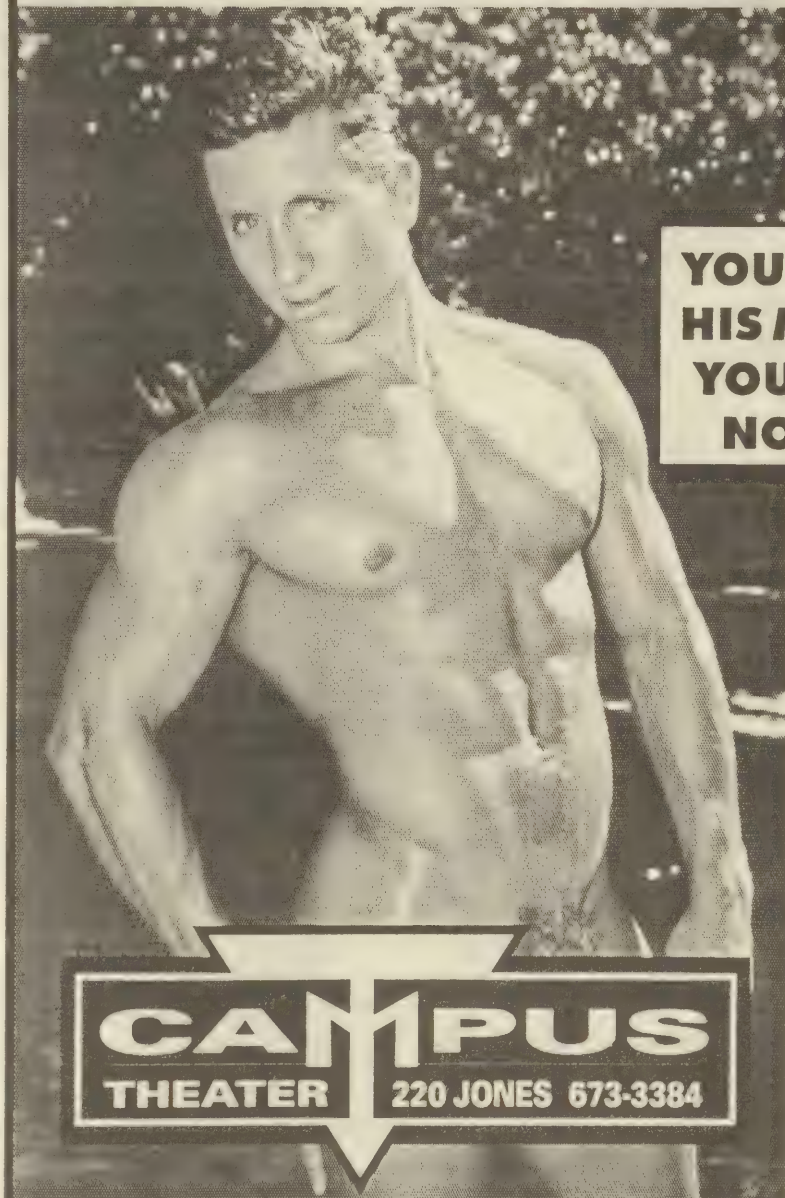
John Hogan (rear), Louis Parnell and Linda Ayres-Frederick in *The Shadow Box*.

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BOOKS

A Tragedy of Her Time

Amnesty
by Louise A. Blum; Alyson Publications Inc., \$19.95

by Nisa Donnelly

It is perhaps fitting, if not painfully ironic, that *Amnesty*, Louise Blum's first novel, should be published so close to the 20th anniversary of the fall of

Saigon, which marked the end of the war in Vietnam. The tragic story of the Jaeger family plays out against the backdrop of America's dirty little war.

Like many of us who grew up with images of Vietnam crossing our TV screens nightly, and with its long shadows crossing our lives, young Maura Jaeger cannot escape the war and all it stands for anymore

and goes to Vietnam, presumably to cleanse the family name, and returns a hollow shell of a man who is absent even when he is present.

A series of losses

Even Maura's childhood games foreshadow this family and this girl's grim future:

I sit on a rock in my favorite place in the woods, watching water spiders glide along the surface of the creek...I am making people out of twigs that I place on leaves and launch out on the current. I know what will happen to them; I know that around the bend the current will grow stronger, suck them down through narrow passages carved by time through rocks and shale. I know that they will not be able to keep their heads above that swirling, ice-clear stream of water. I know that if they do, they will only be swept by the current to the falls, where they will meet their death in a crash of foam and rock.

It gives me pleasure.

As if her girlhood games had foretold her fate, Maura's life is a series of losses. She blames her father's stoic, misplaced patriotism for the loss of her brothers, but Maura's mother is to blame for other losses, no less painful.

Maura discovers love in the arms of her best friend, Magdelene, only to have her torn away by outraged parents; she finds respect and support in the eyes of a lesbian high school teacher, only to see the woman lose her job when Maura's mother discovers this secret.

Finally, her mother casts her only daughter into the world. There, Maura struggles on alone, working her way through college, where she meets her first real adult love, a beautiful but emotionally unstable artist who kills herself, leaving Maura to find the body.

By the time we meet Maura — the book is told in a series of intertwined flashbacks — she is an English professor in a small college town, living alone with her dead lover's cat (ironically named Maurice) and emotionally barren. She is unable to reach out to anyone who might offer her love, solace, even friendship.

Blum is a beautiful writer, and the book is both lyrical and bleak. And there lies the weakest part of this novel. The unrelenting emotional misery is staggering and makes Maura, while beautifully drawn, inaccessible and not quite real. Devoid of happiness, violated, tormented and filled with a rage that she carefully stokes over the years, this character is a full-blown tragedy in and of herself. She has known so little joy, as a child and later as an adult, that the resolution she makes in the last two pages to finally grant herself amnesty — and presumably allow herself to experience a full range of emotions, including happiness — comes too late. Perhaps that is the ultimate irony, because the amnesty granted to the men who went to Canada came too late as well.

The publishers are touting this book as "beyond the stock coming-out story," which is true. *Amnesty* is more an exploration of how political tides and times can affect private family worlds and those unfortunate enough to inhabit them. ▼



Photo: Constance R. Sullivan

Author Louise A. Blum

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Trusting Souls

Bad Company
by Sarah Dreher; New
Victoria, \$10.95

by Deborah Peifer

I was trying to explain the Stoner McTavish mysteries to a friend of mine who has not, as yet, read them. I told her that she has to read them in the order they were written because Sarah Dreher does a remarkable job of introducing a certain otherworldliness in the earlier novels, so that by the time she introduces out-of-body experiences (*Grey Magic*) or time travel (*A Captive in Time*), the reader is prepared to believe all of it.

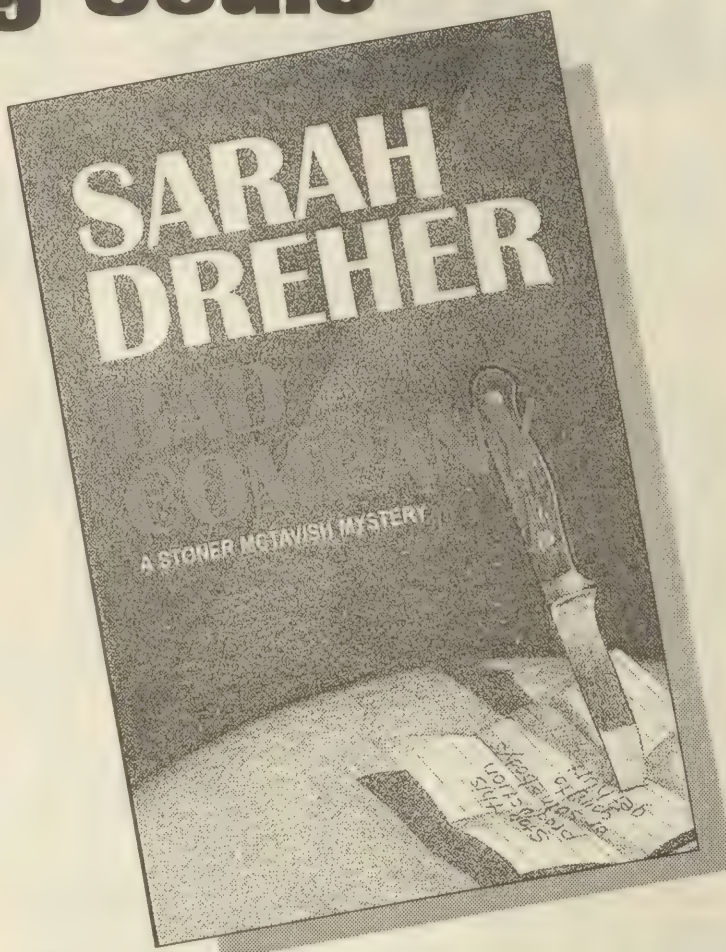
Imagine my surprise, then, when I read Dreher's latest novel, *Bad Company*, and discovered that all of the action takes place on the material plane. More to the point, Dreher's decision to write an "ordinary" mystery results in an extraordinary reading experience, filled with angst and anger and suspense and humor and more than a little wry commentary on the lives of lesbians.

Strange occurrences at a women's theatre company threaten not only their annual production but also their lives. Sherry Dodder, the company's producer and owner of a local inn, contacts Stoner in the hopes that she can find the culprit before the collective is destroyed.

One of my big objections to the amateur sleuth genre is the often forced and awkward way that the ordinary citizen becomes involved in detection, but Dreher uses an entirely believable appeal to sisterhood and Stoner is believably hooked. When she and Gwen meet Sherry, the innkeeper, who is like Leona Helmsley on speed but is clearly devoted to the theatre collective, sparks, tensions and jealousies erupt as annoying pranks become life-threatening incidents.

Bad Company is very effective as a mystery novel, but Dreher has much to say about the corrosive effect of distrust — in relationships, in community — and the ways in which secrets create walls between the most well-meaning people. I found myself thinking about lots of heavy-duty stuff while I was reading, and thoroughly enjoying, this novel.

If you haven't met Stoner and her merry band, do yourself a big favor and start reading. Sarah Dreher is a gift to everyone who loves the printed word.



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An Introduction to Yoga and Its Benefits

The Workout Alternative

by Firat Yener

Imagine a workout that stretches the muscles and engages the mind, increases range of motion, frees you from the clutches of chronic pain, makes you tap into a fountain of energy, and — last but not least — teaches you to keep cool and relaxed in the most stressful situations. Providing all the above benefits, the ancient spiritual science from India, namely Yoga, is emerging as an alternative exercise routine in the mainstream fitness market.

I can almost hear you say, "No way! Not more New Age nonsense!" Yoga, far from being New Age or even new for that matter, made its first appearance in the writings of the Indian thinker Patanjali in the second century A.D.

Yoga derives from the Sanskrit term "yug," meaning "to yoke, to bind." Another way of defining the word Yoga is "union." The marriage of mind, body and soul is the real mean-

ing and aim of yogic practice.

Yoga's introduction to U.S. dates back to Chicago's 1893 Parliament of Religion. Since then, the struggle has been to integrate Yoga's highly spiritual concepts into an industrialized, secular American society.

Until recently, Yoga was associated with Indian men wearing turbans, sitting on a bed of nails and chanting mantras. However, the need for a calming yet rigorous exercise routine to counter the busy, stressful lifestyle of the '90s has made many people reconsider Yoga as an alternative way of working out.

Among the various forms of Yoga, Hatha Yoga is the most commonly practiced one in the West. Hatha Yoga's main goal is to create a balanced state of mind through healing and strengthening the body. In a Yoga class, students usually go through various complex physical postures (Asanas) to release tightness and tension in the body, and work with breathing

techniques (Pranayamas) to relax the body and calm the mind.

Hatha Yoga can also be used in conjunction with any other sport to increase performance efficiency. Through the repetitive use of the same muscle groups without efficient stretching, sports create shortened and tight musculature. As a result of this tightness, the range of motion steadily decreases and the body becomes very prone to injuries.

To prevent injuries and correct misalignments caused by previous injuries, muscles should be regularly and intelligently stretched. Hatha Yoga, with its stretches tested for centuries, can do wonders for anybody currently involved in sports activities.

In the West, body, mind and soul are usually considered to be mutually exclusive entities. However, by continuously drawing a bridge between the physical activities and the mind, Yoga challenges this assumption.

Yogis believe that an unhealthy body cannot house a balanced state of mind.

Conversely, a wandering mind lacks the awareness to appreciate a healthy body. Hatha Yoga cultivates a constant awareness of the interdependence between the mind and the body.

You will never see students reading a book or listening to a Walkman in a Yoga class. The postures demand steady attention and mental/physical participation. In other words, you have to figure out where to place your head and arms and think about which muscles to use before you kick your feet up in the air for a headstand.

To operate efficiently in today's world, an outlet to release stress is crucial. Hatha Yoga provides this outlet through breathing exercises and Asanas that teach different body parts how to release tension. Yoga postures go deeper than the skin and provide massage to internal organs, including the

heart and the brain. By learning to relax, you can also improve your immune system, which responds positively to increased levels of relaxation.

The Bay Area has some of the finest Yoga schools in the U.S., offering a variety of Hatha Yoga styles. The Astanga and Bikram styles favor an energizing, vigorous approach. Iyengar Yoga analyzes postures in detail, giving special attention to alignment and correct form. Kripalu and Sivananda emphasize restorative stretches.

After reading this, if you're still not convinced about Yoga and what it can do for you, try this simple test. Do a forward bend to touch your toes without bouncing up and down. If you can only go halfway down and feel a lot of pain in the hamstrings as well as the upper body, give Hatha Yoga a chance. It may change your life. ▼

Firat Yener is a Yoga instructor at the Mindful Body (415) 931-2639.

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1-800-RAW-DICK

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SWEET LIPS

Polk Street Extravaganza

This Saturday and Sunday, July 15-16, Polk Street will be throwing its annual street fair extravaganza. Kimo's will be opened from 6 a.m. on both

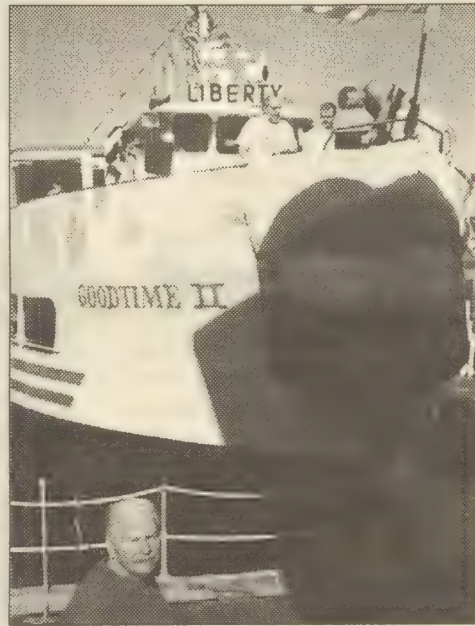
days, with yours truly on the plank on Saturday until 1 p.m. and Ron Warren doing the honors on Sunday. Do stop in and enjoy a libation with moi. There will also be live shows in the Penthouse Showroom at 3 p.m., and at 9 p.m. on Saturday, Montana will be doing her fabulous thing. If you haven't partaken of her charms, do come. She's gorgeous!

Mark your calendars! On Friday, July 28, Her Royal Regalness, Empress Nicole Ramirez-Murray of San Diego, will be doing her sexual show at Kimo's at 9 p.m. Nicole's making good on her Super Bowl bet (boo Chargers!), so this should be hot! Make your reservations early as seating is limited: 885-4535.

Congratulations to Ms. Cowgirl #23 Vera Rose of Kimo's. But just remember, dear (though I'm not one to pull rank), in the days of the Old West (1973), La Lips was Ms. Cowgirl #2. (No "bovine" cracks, please.)

Our favorite Post Mistress, luscious Linda Miller, has already raised over \$5,000 for the AIDS Walk-A-Thon on Sunday, July 16. She'll be walking for the Swallows team for the sixth year in a row. Kudos, bella Linda! The Cinch will be having a hot dog sale on Saturday, July 15, to help Grandma Linda raise even more funds, so eat a weenie and help out!

Seattle's Tacky Tourist Clubs of America are again having their fabulous fundraiser, the Queen City Cruise, on Saturday, August 5. It's their unofficial contribution to Seattle's summertime Seafair Celebration: a matinee boat cruise party for up to 500. I'm going again with my sidekick, Steve Suss, and a



Sweet Lips in front of the Goodtime II.

group from Portland. If you want more information, buzz me at Kimo's.

The ever-popular Grandmere Jose and her ladies will be the guest emcees at the Wooden Horse on Saturday, July 22, at 10 p.m. when Empress Ginger presents *The Sissy Spaceout World's Smallest Drag Show*, a benefit for Project Open Hand. Sounds like a riot! See you there, my pets! ▼

Get With the Program

Diane Aaronson, Gay Games Medalist, will head a clinical workshop for beginning and intermediate bodybuilders Sunday, July 16 at 7:30 p.m. at Gold's Gym, 333 Valencia Street. This free workshop — open to the public — was designed to provide sound clinical advice, instruction in nutrition, workout routines, and supplements for men and women thinking of making a commitment to training. All ages are welcome and special topics will be addressed for those over 40 and those training with disabilities. For further information, call the ABS hotlines at 992-7406. ▼

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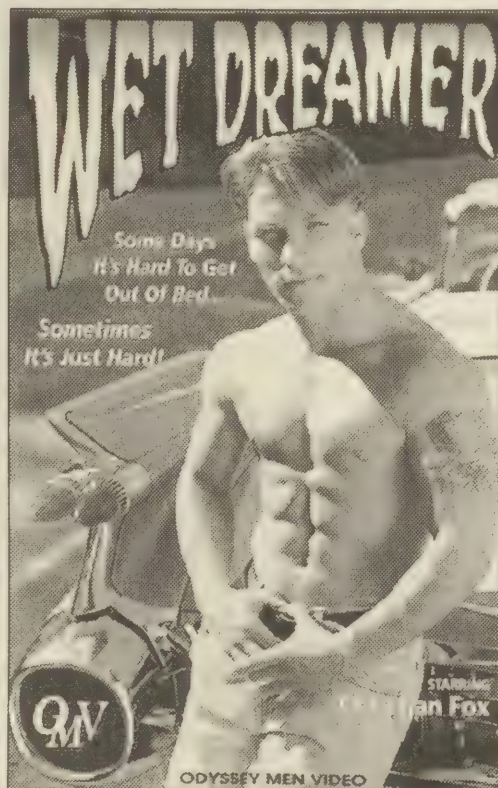
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Sunday :
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9:00, 10:00, 11:30 PM & 12:30 AM
SAT: 2:00, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 9:00,
10:00, 11:30 PM & 12:30 AM
SUN: 2:00, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00
9:00, 10:00 & 11:30

Party In Your Underwear!
Tuesday, July 18th 8:00 p.m.
till closing

"Bare as you dare"

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Free Drinks! • Free Snacks!

Dancers will be naked and visit with you at the bar & in the audience. Clothing optional. Free clothes check.

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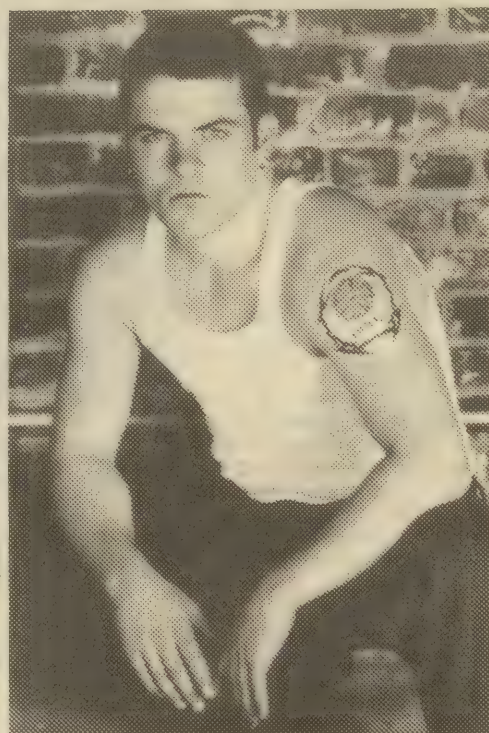
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BARTALK

Parting Glances

Hot 'N' Hunky, Gay Day Around 8 pm.

You: salt & pepper hair & moustache, beautiful eyes, wearing white t-shirt & short, walking on 18th st. w/ Asian friend. Me: at window table w/ 3 friends, red hair & beard, white t-shirt. You smiled, I melted. My friends thought I knew you. I wish I did. Give a call. **4500.**

GWM With Daughter?

You: GWM with Daughter in Cala on 6/18, 8:15pm. Me: GAM. We said "hello" by your car (red civic). Are you single? Would like to meet. **4501.**

The Wave Man On Diamond St., Fri 6/16/95.

Saw you on 18th Diamond prking lot I was waiting for a tow truck to jump my car we said "hello", kept waving at each other, you were going to dinner w/ friends in jeep. Would like to have dinner & meet you! **4502.**

James D. Navy Bremerton

Want to know that your happy and ok. Sorry for our parting of ways. I still have the same address and phone as on my birthday Oct. 25th. Ron H. Seattle. **4503.**

Ft Hunter Liggett, Wildland Fire School

You 5'9", dark hair, from Burumgham. Me: 6'2", sandy blonde hair. I was with command staff & watched you on fire line all day. Tried to meet you that night, but you know what happened! Call Me! **4504.**

Muni After Pride, Embarcadero Center

You: Standing, tight green camouflage shorts, tight rolled-up shirt. Me: sitting, white, t-shirt, spiky hair. Get in touch. **4533.**

Man With Dog & Book

On Haight St. Bus Sun. eve 6/18. I asked you about the muzzle. You replied Ocean ave. vet. Let's swap dog stories & conversation. **4534.**

Mtn View Shell Station On E.C.R., 6/18

We exchanged smiles while vacuuming cars. More smiles as I waited in car wash line. I came back to dry my car and you said "beautiful day, isn't it?" My reply was short, your car was dry, so you had to go. I'd like addn'l smiles (and more) soon. Avail? **4535.**

Brian U.C. Davis

Sat Night 6/16/95 pre pride party. Potrero/Rhode Island. would like to see more of you? Ross U.C.S.F. **4536.**

Uniform Ball Franco

Loved the party. Took the wrong phone number. Big Oops! Please call - Seth. **4600.**

Black Sanda Beach

Saturday June 24. You were with two friends and wore black speedos, and have amazing calves. I was with a friend, we sat to your right, facing the ocean. I have black hair and wore black trunks. **4659.**

Embarcadero Center 3 Pride Day

Talking on phone when you passed by. Shared glances but didn't approach. I was talking on phone to friend didn't want to be rude so kept talking. Regret not approaching thought you were really cute! **4601.**

Darnel Call Kevin

Sorry we didn't exchange numbers when we saw each other dancing in the street after the parade. **4602.**

Got To Stop Meeting Like This

Gay pride- Sat. at City Athletic sauna, Sun at parade (you on 18th St float, me in crowd); third time's the charm? **4703.**

Cash Reward Offered
For info locating Victor Young. Leave your contact info on voice mail. **4603.**

Nick From Sacramento

My friend introduced us near BART on Market St. Pride Sunday evening. You were with several friends. Please leave your number, Keith. **4604.**

Never Too Late

Bill, East Bay. Your phone number was wrong. Please contact me. Let's talk. You answered my ad. **4605.**

The Hottest Guy in Town

Even the Hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over him. Play Safe! Protect yourself & those you Play with. Always wear a condom, don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone. **Safe.**

Pleasuredome Stage June 18th

You had a white t-shirt wrapped around your head, beautiful eyes and a wonderful smile. I wore denim shorts, visiting from England and staying in Diamond Heights for a few months. I would like to meet again, no commitment. Espresso? **4605.**

Al Sat June 17

Met at Collingwood park. I was in CHP uniform, please call Bruce. **4660.**

Polk Gulch Saloon Sun 6/25

Afternoon you were sitting up front. Balding with ponytail. Clean Shaven. I was next to you. Dark hair, moustache/goatee. Too shy to talk, you were hot! Wanna meet? **4700.**

22 Fillmore, 6/29, 10:00pm

You: plaid shirt, jeans and sandals, with long-haired friend in green beast sweatshirt, discussing ways of peeling garlic. Me: white sweatshirt, green backpack, reading Margaret Atwood. I missed my stop looking at you; call for more Garlic tips. **4701.**

You Do Windows

At Embarcadero 3. We looked on 6/21 (and before); come out and play? **4702.**

Corner Grocery/20th & Guerrero

Friday 6/30, 8pm. You: goodlooking heavy set redhead with goatee. You had small dog, made quick purchase. Me: heavysset, bald/beard graying hair, shorts. Our eyes met several times. You must live near. I looked for you and you were out of sight. I want to meet You. **4704.**

Embarcadero Muni, June 27, 2:30ish

You had short brown hair, white shirt & tie. I had a white shirt & jeans. I should have sat by you! I got off at Church and we smiled but you went on. I would like to talk! **4705.**

Seeking Relationship M-M

Where Are You?

Attractive GWM, 5'8", 25, blonde seeks Mr. Right. We are both physically fit, masculine and HIV+. You: top. Me: bottom in shape only and under 35 please. **4546.**

Loving

I'm looking for someone who understand and needs the things that it takes to make a good life together. **4513.**

Mature, Well Hung, Black Stud, Top

I enjoy pumping mature, tall(6'+), husky (200#+), masculine, non-bearded bottoms. All races welcome. Please be sincere, free of busy schedules and easy to reach by phone. I have a private apt. aroma, drinks. **4505.**

Relationship Inclined Mature Man

Seeks HIV-, 18-40 man for romance with lots of cuddling, kissing and meaningful sex: hopefully ongoing. I am an affectionate, playful man, 71, 5'7", 160# and into-in LTR. **4506.**

SF GAM Seeking GWM

S.F. GAM, 5'11", 160#, seeking intelligent, thoughtful, humorous, romantic, mature, no drugs, non-smoking, HIV-, no facial hair, weight proportional with height GWM. **4507.**

HIV+ Capricorn Top Wanted

Single Taurus, 33, bl/bl, 6', 185# in Concord area. You have dark hair, brown eyes, moustache. **4508.**

Witty World Traveler

(Speaks French, Spanish). 34, HIV-, top seeking straight acting WM under 35. Shy, emotional, introverted vegetarians a plus. I'm into biking, hiking, hugs, dining, travel! **4608**

Lonely in Monterey

GWM, 35, 6', 160#, br/gr eyes gdlkg seeks same GWM 25-35 tall gdlks. I am HIV+ and smoke. LTR minded only. Poss. relocated to SF or visa versa. Please call. **4607.**

I Have A Bear Magazine Look

GWM 40, hairy, husky, balding, moustache. I'm 5'9", 195#, dark brn hair. I'm looking for a guy 20-30 w/ attractive boyish looks for possible relationship. I enjoy bicycling, walks, sci-fi, films, humor, safe versatile sex & cuddling. **4510.**

Wanted: Romance Of A Life Time

My name is Jon, I'm 6'4", bl/bl, glasses, 212#, loosing, cuddly, feely, sexy, kissy, romantic. You: 18-35yo, head on your shoulder as well as between your legs. NS, please, any race, romantics need apply. Call. **4512.**

Serious Artist Seeks

Benefactor, mentor, friends. I seriously need your support. Call me with your ideas. **4511.**

Pamper Me

Lavish me with affection, treat me to expensive restaurants, spoil me with excursions. This 6' muscular 42 yo stud is ready. Are you? **4514.**

Couple Seeks Friends

Very attractive couple, GM, both 32, masculine, muscular, professional seeks similar couples/singles for friendship. Weekend getaway, dancing, partying. No sex. **4536.**

Bottom Looking For Top

Well hung, tight bottom 44, 130#, 5'8", looking for hot, well-hung over sexed top for hot sexual action and possible relation. **4543.**

LTR Partner

We are hot sexy studly guys seeking each other to share life based on love. Monogamy is very mandatory. We are HIV+/healthy. **4538.**

Asian Top With Big Cock 6 1/2" Thick

Handsome sexy Asian 26, 4'10", 115#. Love to fuck ass. HIV+, seeks, HIV-, GWM 18-38 bottom. **4545.**

Material Man?

GWM, 40, HIV-, 5'6", 130#, versatile, great shape & health, long term employed semi-professional, epitome of stability, seeks high powered mate 30-45 to share the good life. Travel, beemers, housing in Pacific Heights. Let's go for it. **4610.**

Let's Make It Work

GWM seeks GBM for friendship, sex, possible LTR. I am 40, HIV+, nature boy, slim, blonde hair. Like serious individual who enjoys quiet nights together, open minded and sincere. **4616.**

Buffed GBM 4 Quality GWM

Masculine muscled, attractive and intelligent, intensely spirited African-American Exec seeks handsome, versatile, mature, confident, witty, gym-toned, Euro-American Hunk... for sex, laughs, friendship... maybe more!!! **4612.**

The Hottest Guy in Town

Even the Hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over him. Play Safe! Protect yourself & those you Play with. Always wear a condom, don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone. **Safe.**

Seek Sexy Romantic GWM

Who lives in SF, is a top, wants a LTR, enjoys dining, drinking, humor, health. Free for weekend dating and into free love. Be younger than me: GWM, early 50's, 5'11", 220#. **4611.**

Not too Much Body Hair

Young 40yo, 5'6", 150#, bl/bl seeks 25-40yo who likes to run, watch TV, etc. NS/ND/N Anal sex, HIV- and not too much body hair for friendship and maybe more. **4620.**

Interest in A Long Distance Relationship?

Quality GWM in Sacto seeks LTR with quality GBM. 38, 6'3", 175#, br/br, HIV-, attractive, gym-toned, outgoing, stable, sense of humor. Interests include sports, music, movies. Seeking GBM, 25-45, athletic, stable, HIV-, NS, ND, LD with similar interests. Willing to try long distance relationship to see what happens, are you? **4613.**

Travelling Cuddle Buddy Sought

48yo, GWM, 5'11", 180#, HIV-, gym toned, drug free rugged guy seeks younger GWM for LTR, weekend trips, and all high cuddling. Not into bars, non smoker, healthy conscious, sincere. **4614.**

Exciting, Mature And Endowed Black Man

Enjoys entertaining tall (6'+), mature (40+), husky (200#+), masculine, non-bearded men of any race. Serious, available, sincere men only please. Honesty and discretion guaranteed and expected in return. **4615.**

Hopeful Romantic

Seeks stable, HIV+, topman over 6', tall. U love laughter, music, arts, people & great sex. I'm 34, a fine arts painter, HIV+, very attr., want meaningful partnership. And you?? **4626.**

Disciplining Naughty Daddies

I'm a cute Afro-Canadian gay male that only desires white men that can spoil me when I'm demanding and Daddies that don't mind a little scolding, etc. From his Brat boy. Hi. **4662.**

Three's Company For Responsible, Masc. Man

Gdlkg GWCpl 50/40 both bearded, hairy, husky (210/230), HIV-, NS, ND sk a third man to share our lives and large home with pool & spa in a permanent three some relationship. Please be employed, mobile, HIV- & sexually versatile. If you're ready to meet & commit to 2 great guys, call us. Age, race, looks, size unimportant (it's what's inside that counts) **4617.**

Older But Not Old

Gldg, GWM, 50ish, HIV+, & healthy, seeks an honest and loving man between 45-55. I want to share my good life with a special someone! **4618.**

Jungle Fever At Parkmerced

Well educated black male, 33, 5'11", 190# romantic, passionate and very honest HIV- seeks white males for friendship, companionship and relationship. If interested contact me. (25-45) serious, monogamous person only. **4619.**

Masculine, Mediterranean-Looking, Midwestern Guy

5'10", 165#, thick hair, hard body, hazel eyes, looks 35, am funny, honest, romantic, HIV-, seeks soul mate 40 or younger. **4621.**

Filipino/Asian

Sought by vintage Italian male for companionship. Romantic liaisons, fun times, etc., willing to love and be loved. **4622.**

GM Motorcycle Buddy

GM seeks a riding passenger who enjoys a good safe ride, to the beach, country, hills. No one over 150#, please. I have a Goldwing full dress 1200 bike. I am 5'8", 140#, gdlkg so come join me, evenings/weekends. Lets do it!! **4623.**

Tired of MIA. Wrong

Is my drm luv out there. 18yo SGWM tired of games. Looking for Latin 18-26 for serious relationship. I am 1/2 Latin/White. Only serious need answer, no fat or fems please. Fun loving & HIV- All serious ads will be replied too. **4624.**

Beyond the Ratrace

Healthy, HIV-, NS/ND, 40's retired, hopes to explore life's basic - our spirits, bodies, commitments to loved ones, community, all of nature's creation - with a like-minded guy, we're beyond the materialistic treadmill & affirm our natural, unvarnished being, capable of mutual intimacy & commitment. **4625.**

Ivy League HIV+

Can you relate? GWM, 40's, clean-cut, handsome & fit, affluent but ordinary, working less, volunteering more, gay proud, optimistic, telluride, silent retreats, the Arts, healthy life & libido, great friends but.... seeks similar companion SF or Marin. **4627.**

Bo My Buddy

I am 33, 6'2", 175# handsome, top. If you are attractive, passionate and want more than just casual sex, call me. **4661.**

Colorado Gym Boy

New to SF, 6'2", 200#, brn/grn. Good looking, intelligent, sabbie & fun. I'm not drop dead gorgeous but most find me attractive. How about it? R-U similar? **4663.**

Are You That One Something

Frustrated (GWM) novelist and culture freak seeks something to write about. **4716.**

A Face Plower Looking For

A male hungry throat by non BB average 40'sh tall GWM, HIV- w/ hard average (6") cut tool. Into smokes/aromas a plus. **4516.**

BarTalk Personals are FREE!

You must use this form to submit ads. Use only the space provided.

Do not attach additional paper or text. Deadline for ads is Wednesday, 5 pm, for the following week's issue. New ads will run for 3 consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. We reserve the right to edit ads.

Select One: ☐ Parting Glances ☐ Seeking Relationship M-M ☐ Seeking Adventure M-M
☐ Seeking Relationship W-W ☐ Seeking Adventure W-W ☐ Fetishes ☐ Couples ☐ Other

Name _____ Day Phone No. _____ Eve. Phone No. _____

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City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Write your headline here: _____ (stop here)

Write the rest of the ad here: _____

_____ (stop here)

Mail to: BarTalk, 395 Ninth St., SF CA 94103

PERSONALS

Spoiled Bratboy Wants Attractive Lovers

Bratboy of the future wants very handsome white male lovers for my super cute, Afro-Canadian, bratty self. We will be interracial lovers. Bratboy loving big brother, out, main squeezing, honey bunch, spoiled me, and going steady. **4706.**

East Indian For Long Term Relationship

I am 5'11", 175#, 29yo, East Indian Gay male. Would like to meet guys 19-35 who love Indian music, food and culture and long term relationship. Serious only. **4707.**

Safe Sex Buddy Wanted

Handsome, muscular, GWM with chiseled, hairy, pecs and talented throat, mid-30's, small frame, seeks well muscled hunk for safe, creative fun & friendship. Be HIV-non-smoker, GWM, 30-45, lean, hard-bodied, in SF. **4708.**

River Phoenix Incarnation

Seeking generous gentleman to please w/ massages & more! In return I'm dedicated to helping the Earth heal now. **4709.**

GWM Forty Something

Seeks younger healthy Asian male who is mostly top. Frisky and ready yet romantic and caring too. **4710.**

Hot Top SF GWM

Sought by generous, submissive bottom for weekend dating, sex, romance, LTR. We like health but drinking/dining/fun. HIV+ ok, healthy. Me: GWM, early 50's, 5'10", 219# of non-attitude. **4711.**

Seeking Brainy Bear

Cute guy, 29, 5'9", 175#, br/gr, HIV-, hung/uncut, clean-shaven, smooth, intelligent, spiritual, kinda wild beer drinker, great sense of humor. Seeking hairy guy with same interest who's lots of fun. **4712.**

Goodlooking! All-American GWM!

51years young seeks goodlooking/handsome GWM into fun, friendship, maybe even romance, camping out, looking for & finding gold. Lots of gold. You any years young. **4713.**

Romantic Big Bear

Big bear seeks another bear who not only knows how to spell monogamy... Great kisser, holding hands, twisted sense of humor, old movies, Sci-Fi a must. N/S, N/D, idiots, married or canned spinach eaters. **4714.**

GWM, 37, Brown Hair, Green Eyes, Attractive

Seeking man in my age group with nice hair and a pretty moustache for committed relationship. I have no preconceptions or expectations. Let's just meet and see what happens. Race, politics, origin important. Blessed be. **4715.**

Dynamic, Committed, Deep Love & Happiness

Sensitive, caring, mature, educated, disabled guy invited spiritual, caring, athletic, adventurous, young, warm guy with a big heart and high self-esteem to enjoy deep loving committed monogamous relationship. **4717.**

Seeking Adventure M-M

Hot Bottom Dad

Looking for hot, big dick, romantic, top, NS, 35-45. Into kissing, dinner, fun, fuck, suck and? I'm 39, hot hairy, handsome, 6', 165#, great butt!!! HIV+, uncut, a+. **4515.**

Daytime Sex Buddy Sought

By gdlkg GWM, 29, 5'9", brn/brn who is very sensual, oral, creative. You: gdlkg gay or bi white male, 21-38, avail mon/tues for ongoing hot daytime sex, the more sensual the better! **4520.**

Palo Alto Cock Sucker For White Meat

By 35, 5'11", 190#, Filipino. You be under 45 average 17 weight and cock size. Cock size under 6" need a quick BJ during the hours of 9am-5pm, then respond! **4517.**

Serious Artist Seeks

Benefactor, mentor, friends. I seriously need your support. Call me with your ideas. **4511.**

Super Hung Guys

Wanted who are hung 9", 10", or over for long or short oral sessions. **4518.**

Palo Alto GWM

35, 5'11", 195#, blk/brn seeks hairy bodied guys under 50 to suck off and maybe be mounted rough yet slow for day time sex. **4519.**

Live Outside San Francisco?

I want to meet men who live outside the city to visit. I'm seeking new environment, new adventures, new friends. I'm muscular & friendly. UB2. **4527.**

Here Is My Fantasy

I lay naked on my bed you walk in (door unlock) with a big hard on. You grease my man's hole & fuck my ass. Age unimportant. Gay black men preferred. **4544.**

Small To Regular Size Dick

For mutual 69, ass eating, foot and toe licking, tit play etc. Must be exuberant and uninhibited. Prefer (but open) over 35yo, 5'11", and above, 190# +. Smoke and aroma OK. Race unimportant, couples OK. **4528.**

Looking For Loving & Caring Black Man

GBM, tired of the club scenes looking for someone who is honest, looks our unimportant & tired of one niter. **4529.**

GLM Seeks GWM

Seeking Caucasian tops for fun. I'm 37, 5'4", 135#, bottom. I also enjoy massages. **4631.**

Yes Sir!!

GWM early 40's top bottom daddy for LTR. We are goodlooking sexy men we are HIV+ & healthy. Monogamy is mandatory! **4542.**

For Smooth Horny Top Men

Safe but extremely sensual and erotic oral body worship by GWM hungry bear type bottom. Well hung a +. I love smell of leather on skin. **4539.**

Love To Receive

44, 130#, 5'8" well-hung bottom looking for goodlooking butch tops for hot sexual action. **4540.**

Free Quality Massage

For hot young guys who take good care of themselves. I'm 41, 6'2", masculine, 175#, goodlooking. A safe pleasurable experience. Table. Sincere. **4647.**

Late Morning Sex Buddy Wanted

Me: Attractive, GWM, 45, 6'5", 280#, football players build. You: attractive, GWM, 18-35, slim, smooth to moderate body hair, great buns, ass massage lite spanking. You'll love it!!! **4633.**

The Hottest Guy in Town

Even the Hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over him. Play Safe! Protect yourself & those you Play with. Always wear a condom, don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone. **Safe.**

Blk Sweet

5'9", 165#, clean shaven, well-built, masculine, 8 1/2", cut, B-butt. Seeks handsome, hung, blk tops, for sweaty summer fun. **4648.**

Lots Meat

Masculine and affectionate Asian 47, 5'9", seeks clean-shaven, smooth muscular WM into workouts, outdoors activities, cultural arts and sensual physical contact. **4649.**

Seeking Asian Leather Boy

GW leather man, 45, 200#, visiting SF in Aug ISO Asian leather boy. Me: honest, very generous, trustworthy, and confidential. You: early 20's, thin, non-smoker, honest, submissive, trustworthy. Great opportunity for the right Asian boy! **4650.**

Share Travel

Wanted GM to share driving & expenses to midwest. I have '95 Dodge Vat. Travel on or about 8/14. **4722.**

All 9 1/2 inches of My Sweet Chocolate

Hotrod are rock hard and in need of expert Ebay service at 5:30am and 11:00pm, weekday morning and weeknight visits from mature, masculine, DT, experts. Experts only, curious go to the next ad! **4723.**

Seeking Muscle

I'm seeking a body builder or other muscular exhibitionist to pose, flex. I'll worship your great body, body massage, non-sexual OK. I'm nice looking, slim and in shape. **4724.**

Mexican Top Wanted

With big uncut dick, GWM, Ebay, brn/blu, 6", 165#, HIV-, 40's. My ass and mouth aching to service. Beer over load? W/S? **4725.**

New To A Real Fun We Star With Dildoes.

Recent I discovered FF and I like it, and I want to learn more about it. Me 31yo, curly dark hair, very well proportionate sexy body, hairy bubble but, 8" long. You: very discrete, serious, straight acting type, with hairy butt a plus. Bet 35-48yo. No fems please. **4531.**

Incarceration

Master looking for a slave who is ready for long term bondage in my private correctional facility. Inmate will be sentenced to varied and severe bondage. Limits respected, punishment assured. **4651.**

E. Bay Male Bonding Buddy Desired

I dig being naked w/ other masculine men, mutually talking dirty, J/O, worshipping our cocks, exclusively, while getting fucked up (Share costs), my place 10-11pm, for lengthy dates. No videos, shaved cocks. Change of pace for conventional fuck/suck physical scenes. **4653.**

The Hottest Guy in Town

Even the Hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over him. Play Safe! Protect yourself & those you Play with. Always wear a condom, don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone. **Safe.**

Voyeur Arranges Scat Scenes

Seeking bottoms and tops just let me watch, prefer no facial hair, well defined bodies. **4654.**

Submissive Boy Toy Needs Restraints Naked

Use your gloved finger or toys on a very tight opening. Penis likes attention too. Submissive willing to be retrained naked or in lingerie for you to play w/. San Jose area only or travel in kidnap me for your playroom pleasure. **4655.**

Butt, Balls & Cock Eaters

I can't resist it when a man slowly blows warm air up my rear. Looking for a man with good tongue! Call now! **4656.**

Uniforms & Boots

Attractive guy likes to lick & polish boots, suck toes. Looking for in shape, goodlooking guys with no facial hair. **4726.**

Couples

Looking For 3 Ways In All Wrong Places

Goodlooking GM lovers 31-38yo. 1 bl/bl, 1 br/br seeking 3 ways or couples for good times (sex). **4532.**

Blonde Stud Seeks Man and Woman

Tall, 35, BiWM, who is in good shape and clean cut looking for straight couple for friendship, kissing and possibly sex. I am attractive and fun. You be the same. **4728.**

Other

Specializing Kink "Mildly"

I'm a gay, black male, attractive, and experienced. Into "giving out" any thing from the wild side to white men only. I'll do spanking, pissing, scatting, hand play, tickling and waxing. **4541.**

Marriage Proposal

Gay Czech male seeking Lesbian for mutual beneficial nuptial arrangement. Please leave msg for more info. **4657.**

The Hottest Guy in Town

Even the Hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over him. Play Safe! Protect yourself & those you Play with. Always wear a condom, don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone. **Safe.**

Black Top Hung Like A Horse

Looking for white bottom 18-35 only! That can handle this stud as many times a night as I want. Serious GWM bottom only need to apply. I'm locked up till Sept. Non Violent. **4526.**

Day Time Top/Vers Sex Buddy Wanted

I'm 34, 6', 160#, gr/br, balding, full beard, hairy, 8 1/2", uncut, great hairy bubble butt, into lite S/M, TT, fucking, A/P, toys, bare foot, 3 ways, role playing, rough action. **4522.**

All Tied Up

WM 28, 6'3", 245 hairy chest seeking other muscle boys for mutual bondage games. Also 3 ways. **4524.**

Are You Too Big?

Hot tight Italian ass looking for some big action. Must be in good shape, under 40. Uncut a plus. **4523.**

In Search Of Musc. Black Guy

I would like to connect with a smooth, hairless, defined BM. I'm GWM 37 muscular honest and serious. **4525.**

GWM 35, Looking For 18-22

Share my hockey ticket, go to gay movies, sports events, trips. Just looking for hot guys to meet occasionally, weekly. Don't want relationship, just fun times. Love underwear, boxers, some LT, S/M. Safe only, HIV- only. **4632.**

BM Wanted

For hot, wet sex, WM, 47, 5'10", 170#, short hair, balding, goatee, nice ass. Need deep penetration with hip action. Make me juicy! **4630.**

The Hottest Guy in Town

Even the Hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over him. Play Safe! Protect yourself & those you Play with. Always wear a condom, don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone. **Safe.**

Country Feed Romantic Top Wanted

Me: HIV+, healthy attractive homeboy, 6'3", br/gr moustache, 180# not too hairy, w/ 40yo ass. 99% bottom but can be flexible, slightly hairy 6" cut thick, smoker w/ high voice open minded, into old fashioned love and affection, love long hard riders who can keep it up. You: 30's to 60's any race hairy preferred but not nec, hung and thick 7" **4634.**

I Need Some Assistance

GBM, 29, off on fridays, only really need my 9" thick cut dick sucked, it's been a while. You 25-35 GLM, GWM, hungry and very oral. **4645.**

Dominant Top Sought

To teach curious top the art to please. I'm into wearing leather, mesh briefs, jockstrap etc. like toys, photo, video, shave, maybe B/D, no pain. Me gdlkg, 38, ctn shvn, (you too), smooth, HIV-, 5'11", 150#, Let's make fantasy into reality. **4646.**

Double Adventure

In shape WM, 5'11", hung big, needs well built WM, hairy legs and big hairy bubble butt to eat and fuck. **4718.**

Lengthy J/O Dirty Talk Scene

Oakland solely into heavy, intense mutual dirty talk, j/o while getting fucked up(share costs) my place late pm. No shaved cocks. **4629.**

Bondage Curious?

GWM top, 32, 150#, in shape, looking for trim muscled bottom 25-35 for bondage, light SM. Completely safe and sane. No WS, humiliation, just sensual TT, CBT. **4664.**

Cock Sucking Filipino

Palo Alto peninsula, 35, 5'11", 190#, smooth skin, like giving white guys under 40 free blowjob with no reciprocation. Have lips will travel. **4719.**

Handsome GWM Nude

44yo, 5'8", 150#, br/bl, will come to your house, undress, pick up your smelly clothes, make your bed, be played with, wash dishes, jerk off. Nice body and cock. SF only. **4720.**

Extremely Hungry For Big Black Cock!

Sbay hot Italian, 5'8", 150#, smooth athletic body good looking, straight acting, squeaky clean. New to Bi scene will worship your black badness and your black buddies too! Fuck my small tight white ass while I suck your buddies off. **4721.**

Seeking Adventure W-W

Friendship &

Mid-50's HIV+, seeking SWM for fun and good safe times. Looking for friendship only. Will accept phone calls that are legitimate and will meet you outside home first then we can decide. No heavy drug users need apply. No hangups, no guilt trips. Good self-esteem person only. **4729.**

Seeking Sex, May Be More

GWF, 39, Mountain View, looking for one butch and fit woman who is involved in LTR or alone. I really need somebody (new to US), call me. **4658.**

Fetishes

Seeking Freaky Hug Nipples

I'm 37, muscular, wanting to date/service a muscular guy with giant protruding nipples. Pls be serious! **4530.**

Hey Pulling Pants Down

I tired to contact you but no luck. I too love to unbuckle my belt and pull my jeans down and wack off. Call now! **4652.**

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Bay Area Reporter
395 9th Street
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Deadline is the Thursday before issue date.

Friday 14

Alter Altar

Alternative queer show of ritual objects and installation. Thurs.-Sat. thru 7/15. Collision, 417 14th St. **431-4074.**

Back to Bacharach & David

CitiArts Theatre presents musical revue saluting '60s/'70s composing team. Wed.-Sun. thru 7/15, call for times. \$18. 8pm. Willows Theatre, 1975 Diamond Blvd., Concord. **(510) 798-1300.**

Being Alive

New musical by Philip Horvitz cross-pollinates Sondheim's *Company* with O'Neill's *Mourning Becomes Electra*. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 7/29. \$10. Exit Theater, 156 Eddy. **436-0532.**

Contemplating Queer Art

Group show of gay visual artists. Thru 7/19. Bucheon Gallery, 355 Hayes. **863-2891.**

A Face with a View

Autobiographical comedy about performer Maria Falzone's relationship with her Sicilian immigrant mother. Wed.-Sun. thru 7/30 at 8pm. \$12. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **861-7933.**

A Girl's Guide to Chaos

Cynthia Heimel's play explores the perils of single girls in urban America. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm. \$15. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. **861-8972.**

An Ideal Husband

Berkeley Rep Theatre's production of Oscar Wilde's play about public life. Tues.-Sun. at various times thru 7/16. \$28-32.50. 2025 Addison St., Berkeley. **(510) 845-4700.**

Let Sleeping Dogs Lie

High Risk Group uses a range of dance forms to explore Generation X. \$5. 8:30pm. Jon Sims Center for the Perf. Arts, 1519 Mission. **554-0402.**

Mask Dance

Jehfree uses story, dance, song, masks and photos to

explore the hearts of men. Sliding scale. 7:30pm. Pantheon Studios, 395 Valencia. **252-8773.**

Pipe Dream

Rodgers and Hammerstein's adaptation of John Steinbeck, part of 42nd St. Moon's lost musical series. Fri.-Sun. at various times thru 7/23; tonight at 8pm. \$15. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. **861-8972.**

Marilyn Pittman

Comic returns to Josie's, one night only. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **861-7933.**

The Shadow Box

Genesis Theatre production of Michael Cristofer's 1977 Pulitzer-winning drama. Thurs.-Sun. at 8pm thru 7/30. \$16. Phoenix Theatre, 301 8th. **621-4423.**

Smuin Ballets/SF

World premiere program of new ballets. Thru Sun. \$22-27. Center for the Arts Theater at Yerba Buena, 700 Howard. **978-2787.**

Spencer Tunick

Photographs, opens tonight. 7pm. Thru 8/10. Figure 5, 3491 19th St. **641-8042.**

Way Out West

Artfull Circle Theatre remounts its original comedy musical with Ann Drogynous as Mae West, Mark Sargent as W.C. Fields. Thurs. at 8pm, Fri. & Sat. at 8&10pm thru 7/22. \$15. The 450 Geary Theatre. **621-5455.**

Saturday 15

Blues & Art on Polk

Street festival, free. Sat. & Sun., 10am-6pm. Polk betw. Bush & Pacific. **346-4561.**

Boadecia's Anniversary

3rd anniversary party includes author signings by Mabel Maney, Mary Wings, Nisa Donnelly, others, all day. Boadecia's Books, 398 Colusa Ave., Kensington. **(510) 559-9184.**



Tuesday

Legendary flamenco dancer José Greco performs with his troupe in *El Duende del Flamenco* at Marines Memorial Theatre.

Gay Comedy Night

Lisa Geduldig, Jaffe Cohen, Amy Shuklian. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **861-7933.**

Lives of the Great Poisoners

Musical theatre/ dance by Caryl Churchill. Fri.-Sun. at various times thru 7/23; tonight at 8pm. \$15. Diego Rivera

Theatre, Phelan & Judson Ave. **239-3100.**

Mission Mural Walks

Walking tours of Mission District murals with slide talk by muralist. \$4. Every Sat., 1:30pm. 348 Precita Ave. **285-2287.**

Queer Raza Exhibition

"El corazon me dio un salto," mixed

media artwork by gay/lesbian Chicano/Latino artists. Tues.-Sat. 12-6pm thru 7/29. Galeria de la Raza, 2857 24th St. **826-8009.**

Rosencrantz & Guildenstern's Excellent Adventure

Lamplighters Music Theatre's original musical. Tonight at 8pm, various times thru 7/30. \$23. Lindland Theatre, 175 Phelan. **227-0331.**

Sweet Bird of Youth

Miss X and Michael Wilson star in Tennessee Williams' exploration of beauty and desire. Thurs.-Sat. at 8:30pm thru 7/22. \$15. Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. **861-5079.**

Vintage Micheline

"Paintings from the Archives of the Artist" Jack Micheline. Wed.-Sat. thru 7/22. Lawrence Hultberg Gallery, 544 Hayes. **861-8251.**

Sunday 16

Azucar y Crema

Hot women's salsa band, music by Remy Arnone Rodriguez. \$7. 8pm. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley. **(510) 849-2568.**

Building Bridges

"Israeli and Palestinian Artists Speak" and "Children's Art for Peace: Arab and Israeli Children Speak." Sun.-Thurs. thru 9/21. \$3. The Jewish Museum, 121 Steuart. **543-8880.**

Envy

Part of "7 Deadly Sins of Summer" series. Lisa Geduldig, Trauma Flintstone, Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. Donations. 9pm. Hamburger Mary's, 1582 Folsom. **626-1985.**

In the Dark

West Coast premiere of John C. Russell's "tiny gothics." Sun.-Wed. thru 7/19. \$10. 8pm. 450 Geary Studio Theater. **673-1172.**

La Klubstutita

Dragbar & cabaret Sundays, 10pm-2am, show at 11pm. \$3. La India Bonita, 3089 16th St.

Phyllis Lyon, Del Martin

Talk about the '95 White House Conf. on Aging to G40+ Club, free. 2pm. First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin. **552-1997.**

Felice Picano

Author reads from his new novel, *Like People In History: A Gay American Epic*. Free, 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. **431-0891.**

Positives Being Positive

Potluck affair, 2-6pm. MCC Social Hall, 150 Eureka. **476-6448.**

Up Your Alley

Leather and flesh fair. 10am-6pm. Dore Alley, South of Market.

Monday 17

Actual Photo

Photography by Tony Meredith: altered and unaltered Polaroids. Thru July. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes. **864-7654.**

Beans and Thread

Bean mosaics by David Cunningham, stitched paintings by Alison Hoekstra. Mon.-Sat. thru 7/31. Artists' Television Access, 992 Valencia. **824-3890.**

Gay Comedy Open Mike

M.C. Hank Donat. Aspiring queer comics sign up by phone. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **861-7933.**

Home Front WWII

Alfred Palmer's photographs, 1940-44. Also, photographers Christopher Burkett, Judy Krasnick and Laura Blom. Mon.-Fri. 9am-6pm thru 8/19. Vision Gallery, 1155 Mission. **621-2107.**

Barry McGee, Philip Ross

Site specific installation at the Luggage Store Gallery by graffiti artists. Thru 8/6. 509 Cultural Center Annex, 1000 Market. **255-5971.**

Tuesday 18

Tom Baril

Black and white photographs made by pinhole camera. Also, "Cascade Structure." Tues.-Sat. 11am-5:30pm thru 8/26. Robert Koch Gallery, 49 Geary. **421-0122.**

Erica Baum

Photographs of blackboards after class. Mon.-Sat. thru 8/18. UC Extension Center, 55 Laguna. **(510) 642-4111.**

El Duende del Flamenco

José Greco and company of world-acclaimed flamenco dancers, opens tonight. Tues.-Sat. at 8pm, Sat. & Sun. at 3pm, Sun. at 7pm. \$30-35. Marines Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter. **771-6900.**

Foggy City Dancers

Gay and lesbian square dance, free class, 7:30pm. Live Oak School, 117 Diamond. **905-4546.**

Love's Labor's Lost

The California Shakespeare Festival presents the Bard's comedy. Tues.-Sun. at various times thru 8/6, tonight at 8pm. \$18-30. Bruns Amphitheater, Hwy. 24, Orinda. **(510) 548-9666.**

Male Figure Drawing

Classical nude modeling by artist/performer Kevin Woodson, hosted by Mark I. Chester. 7pm. 1229 Folsom. **621-6294.**

My Piece of Sky

Day-to-day survival in San Quentin, one-man show by folk musician Ben Aronoff, opens tonight. Tues.-Sat. at 8:30pm, Sun. at 7:30pm thru 8/13. \$10-15. Magic Theatre, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. **441-8822.**

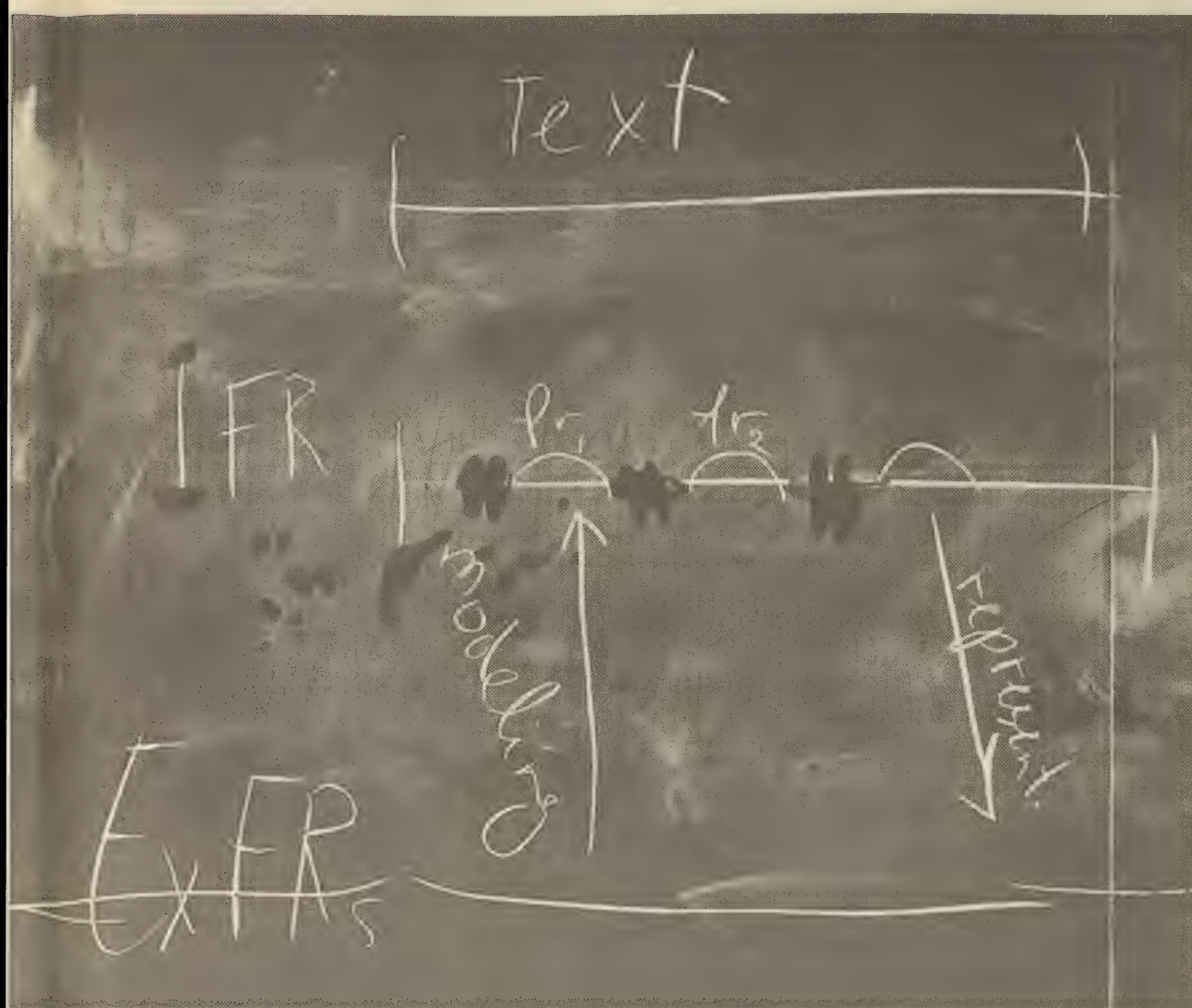
Radios Appear

Sound installation by Ed Osborn, also S_PAX__T_I_AMO installation



Friday

Rick Jacobson, Todd Baker, Andy Ingall and Clifford Hengst in *Being Alive*, a new musical by Philip Horvitz at Exit Theater. (Photo: Phyllis Christopher)



▲ Tuesday

Photographs by **Erica Baum** of blackboards after class are on exhibit at UC Extension Center.

by Robert Strati and *Found Objects* by Lisa Kokin. Tues.-Sat. thru 8/1. Morphos Gallery, 49 Geary. **399-1439**.

Scream Against the Sky

"Japanese Art After 1945" Large survey of Japanese avant-garde art. Thru 8/27, call for times and admission. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. and Center for the Arts at Yerba Buena Gardens, 701 Mission. **357-4000** and **978-2700**.

Strikers

New musical drama set during a newspaper strike. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 7/30. \$20. Gill Theater, Campion Hall, USF, Fulton & Cole. **392-4400**.

Wednesday 19

Belief Systems

"As Limitations of Perception," an exhibition of paintings by Jose Maro Alvarado. Thru 7/28. UCSF/AHP Castro Center, 400 Castro. **502-4586**.

Broadway Babies

Jane Wasser, Barbara Carlton and Marsha Mercant in a musical theatre revue. Wed.-Sun. at 8pm, Sun. at 3pm thru 8/20. \$17-20. Plush Room Cabaret, 940 Sutter. **885-2800**.

Downhear

An experimental lounge series of new music and performance. Wed. thru July. \$2. 9pm. Cafe du Nord, 2170 Market. **905-5979**.

Gay Skate

Rink full of queers on roller-skates. \$5 includes skates rental. 8-10:30pm. Rolladium Roller Rink, 363 North Amphlett, San Mateo. **1-800-473-8658**.

Jelly's Last Jam

Maurice Hines stars as Jelly Roll Morton in Broadway musical. Tues.-Sun. thru 7/30, call for times. \$15-60. 8pm. Golden Gate Theater, Market at Golden Gate. **776-1999**.

Lesbian & Gay Open Reading

Authors of both poetry and prose share their work, free. 7:30pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia. **282-9246**.

Light Energies

"Landscapes of the Mind," films including *Four in the Afternoon* by James Broughton, and *Women's*

Sexuality in the U.S. Military, free. 7:30pm. Diesel, A Bookstore, 5433 College Ave., Oakland. **(510) 653-9965**.

3 Independents

Art by Rodney O'Neal Austin, Weedy Humphrey and Bob Schmitz. Wed.-Sun., 12-7pm thru 8/5. Four Walls, 3160-A 16th St. **626-8515**.



▲ Friday

Pat Christenson and Beth Willmurt in the Rodgers & Hammerstein musical *Pipe Dream* at the New Conservatory Theatre. (Photo: David Allen)

Rites by Barbara Hammer, part of Facing Eden film series. \$6. 7pm. de Young Museum, Golden Gate Park. **863-3330**.

Lois Shawver

Reading from *And the Flag Was Still There: Straight People, Gay People and*

Unity: Transcending Boundaries

Exhibit of artists from around the world to commemorate 50th anniversary of the U.N. Tues.-Sat. 12-4pm thru 7/29. SOMAR, 934 Brannan. **931-9670**.

Thursday 20

Bingo

Gay bingo benefits Coming Home Hospice, every Thurs. \$12. 6pm. Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St. **241-0425**.

Paul Blake, Ruth Weiss

Exhibit of mixed media. Thurs.-Sat., 12-5pm thru 7/27. Also: Richard Knapp, "Interstate," Michael Faye, "Innerstate," (thru 7/24). Belcher Studios Gallery, 69 Belcher. **626-8917**.

Bodies of Evidence

Cynthia Greig, Christina Dallas, Jin Lee, Julie Blankenship: photographs that address the female body. Tues.-Sat. 12-5pm thru 8/12. SF Camerawork, 70 12th St. **621-1001**.

Gold Rush

Gay square dance performance team holds open house for prospective members, call for information. **255-6458**.

Gorilla Theatre

Fratelli Bologna and friends in improv comedy free-for-all. Thurs. thru July. \$8. 10pm. Climate Theatre, 252 9th St. **978-2345**.

Medea, The Musical

Comedy by John Fisher in the tradition of Euripides and Busby Berkeley. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm thru 7/29. \$18-20. Lorraine Hansberry Theater, 620 Sutter. **436-0806**.

Salsa Night

Brazilian music and dancing. Bahia Cabana, 1600 Market. **861-4202**.

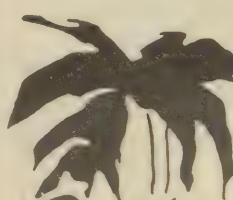
Women With Balls

Showcase for women stand-up comics, every Thurs. 8pm. Cat's Grill and Alley Club, 1190 Folsom. **431-3332**.

Joseph E. Young

Mixed media paintings and drawings, including the "I Love You Homophobia" series. Thru 7/26. Atrium Gallery, 901 Market. **399-8518**.

This Week's Dinner Specials



Fresh Atlantic Salmon poached in white wine with lemon & capers on a bed of mashed potatoes with seasonal vegetables.....**9.75**

Grilled 12-oz. NY Steak or NY Pepper Steak with fettucini alfredo or linguini pesto.....**12.95**

Chicken Stroganoff with marsala wine & mushrooms over fettucini...**8.95**

Penne Pasta with Chicken & Rock Shrimp, light tomato-basil cream sauce.....**9.75**

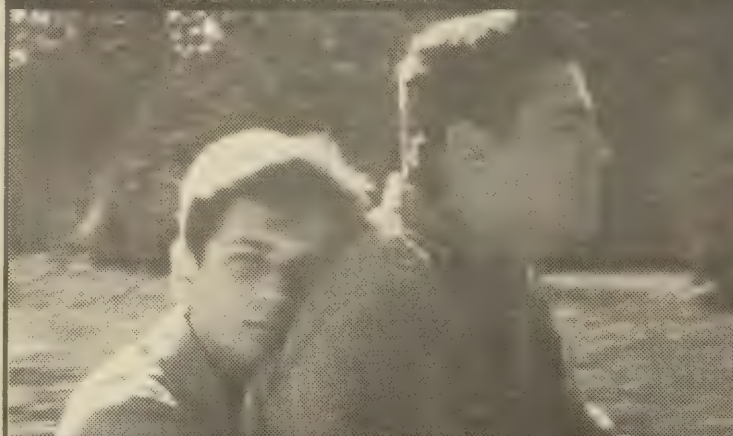
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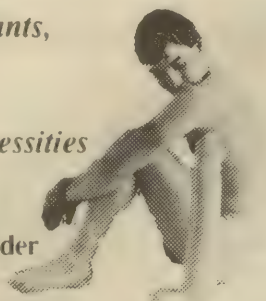
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Leather Games Coast to Coast

This weekend, leather aficionados will get down to business and pick Mr. Great Lakes Drummer in Minneapolis and Mr. Mid-Atlantic Drummer in Baltimore (both on Saturday night). In San Francisco, the Inter-Club Fund will throw its annual Bike Blessing and the annual Up Your Alley Fair (aka Dore Alley Fair) will take place on Sunday. If wallowing in mud is your thing, Club MUD will hold its '95 Mud Fest up at Rio Nido on the same day. Summer's here and the time is right for leathering, muddying, watering and just enjoying life as we know it in the fabulous leather world.

Before I go on I would like to respond to all those critics out there who feel I'm ignoring The 15 Association and their parties. I am not ignoring The 15 at all. Because the physical site of the Association's monthly party is owned by a group of "Paranoid Pollies," officials of The 15 have asked me not to publicize their events. If you've read about these events elsewhere, those publications (and writers) are not complying with the wishes of The 15. If you doubt the veracity of my statement, kindly call our friends at (415) 673-0452.

Now, on to something really important. You should know that a very, very sick individual is telephoning people in our leather community (title holders, club presidents, officers and just plain leatherfolk) and harassing them with physical violence and death threats. What sort of lunatic would do

such a thing? One who, obviously, is too cowardly to talk to someone face to face, that's who. Authorities have been alerted.

It's really too bad that we have to endure sickos like this within our tribe. What a pathetic



An oil painting of a "stamp that should be" by Jim Leff is just one of the many renderings in his "Keep America Strong" show, opening at the Lone Star Saloon on Wednesday, July 19.

ic and sad life this queen must lead. Look, here's some advice, twisted one: If you have a gripe, why don't you try addressing your frustrations in a letter to the editor (if you can write)? That would certainly be a marked improvement over harassing innocent people!

As you may or may not know, the Mr. Northern California Drummer title is now up for grabs. A series of con-

tests are taking place in Northern California to get regional contestants to compete for the title, which will take place at the Club F/X in San Jose during the weekend of August 17-20. The actual Mr. Northern California Drummer contest is scheduled for Saturday afternoon, August 18.

Alameda County will stage its Mr./Ms. Alameda County Leather contest on Saturday, July 29. The male runner-up in that contest will compete for Mr. Northern California Drummer. San Jose has already chosen their candidate - Wolf Harmon. Unfortunately, there are still no photos of him from anyone connected with the contest in San Jose. (Some of us are wondering if his buns could possibly be as tight, shapely and slappable as our dear Wolf Mirasol's?)

Last year's Mr. SF Drummer, Keith Shaw, who was supposed to produce the 1995 Mr. SF Drummer contest, appears to have dropped off the face of the earth. So, Graylin Thornton is producing the Mr. SF Drummer contest at the SF-Eagle on Thursday, August 3. Call 861-1769 and you can get details on all the Northern California Drummer contests as well as order tickets for the August 17-20 events.

If you're traveling around the country and want to get in on the Mr. Drummer contests, here are the dates: July 14-16: Mr. Great Lakes Drummer at the Gay '90s in Minneapolis; Mr. Mid-Atlantic Drummer at

Continued on next page

Eventures in Leather

Unless otherwise indicated, all phone numbers shown below are in the 415 area code.

Friday, July 14

Northern California leather women head to Chicago to compete in Amy Marie Meek's Intl. Ms. Leather contest the weekend of May 21-23. So-o-o, it's an IMsL Sendoff Party for Ms. SF Leather "B.J." Lindstrom, Ms. Silver State Leather Judy Reese (Reno) and Ms. Leather Masters Pat Baille (San Jose) at the Eagle tonight from 2000 to 2300, with a \$6 beer bust. It's for their travel fund(s), so I hope all you guys out there will support our candidates. There's a 50/50 raffle and entertainment by Empress Donna and Emperor Brian. Be there! Now this is "Better Together" in action!

Weekend, July 14-16

Picking Mr. Great Lakes Drummer at the Gay '90s in Minneapolis and Mr. Mid-Atlantic Drummer at the Baltimore Eagle in Baltimore over the weekend. Both contests are on Saturday night; I'll be there to bring you photos of the winners next week.

In Reno? Help the Club 1099 celebrate their anniversary. Their press release didn't say which anniversary it is, but if you're in the vicinity, on Friday, they're picking the king and queen of the 1099. On Saturday, there's an anniversary buffet at 2300, a show at midnight and a grand prize drawing at 0200. On Sunday, it's a barbecue and Monarch Bingo beginning at 1500. Congratulations and best wishes for future success!

Pre-Dore Alley Fair party at Greg's Ballroom in San Jose from 2100 to 0200 with a strict leather, latex, uniform code -

or take off your shirt! They promise a beer bust and sleazy games. They're seeking volunteers for the AIDS Emergency Fund at the Dore Alley Fair, so please sign up!

Saturday, July 15

"Daddy/Son Role Playing" is the subject on tap at The Ring today from 1300 to 1500, presented by Louis de Dobbeleer. Only \$10. To reserve a space, call 522-9697.

Club Mud's "MudFest '95" today, with Tug-O-War, Tire Scramble, Greased Human Pig Romp and a Wet Jeans Contest - all in mud! This is the last party at this site, so call (707) 869-0546 if you want in on the action or to volunteer to help Brother Duke move the clay to new digs.

Leather Daddy's Boy Jim Gibson and Leather Daddy Steve Gaynes team up to present a "Fantasy Slave Auction" tonight at the Eagle, with the action at 2000 and the auction at 2100. It's only \$6 for the beer bust, with an auction for "dinner dates" at local eateries with leather guys.

Sunday, July 16

Inter-Club Fund's annual Blessing of the Bikes takes place at 1430 at the Eagle, followed by a beer bust from 1500 to 1800 for \$8. Food by Eichelberger's and a raffle for prizes. Get your machine blessed and ride around the area with a safer feeling.

The Up Your Alley Street Fair (aka the Dore Alley Fair) from 1100 to 1800. Cruising galore for seven solid hours, booths, dancing and lots of tourists/visitors eager to "interact" with you!

Wednesday, July 19

Leather Buddies Party at 933 Harrison, the ultimate gathering of leather-oriented men hell-bent on fun. You know the rules: you *must* wear leather and boots, absolutely no cologne (you will be sniffed!), and safe-sex practices will prevail!

SF artist, the prolific Jim Leff, opens his oil paintings show "Let's Keep America Strong" with "things that should be U.S. postage stamps" at the Lone Star tonight. Reception for the artist from 1900 to 2100. The show will hang until July 31. Don't miss this one!

Weekend, July 21-23

International Ms. Leather Contest in Chicago, with women from all over the country vying to succeed Cindy Bookout. The host hotel is the Bismarck (800) 643-1500. Need tickets? Call (402) 451-7987 or fax (402) 457-5350. It's \$50 for the whole weekend, and they accept Visa and Mastercard.

Mr. Northeast Drummer gets chosen this weekend (Sunday night) in New York City. Details coming any day now.

Friday, July 21

Knights of Malta "Light Blue Hankie Night" beer bust at the Eagle from 2000 to 2300 for \$6. Hot dogs for \$2 go on sale at 2130.

Saturday, July 22

"Sizzle & Sweat" beer bust by the Bowling Bears at the Eagle for \$6 from 2000 to 2300 and a "Chapped Buns Contest," which could win you \$75 for having the best buns in chaps (in case you were wondering). ▼



Photo: Mr. Marcus

The Southeast Drummer Boys in Atlanta just before their pre-judging sessions at the Atlanta Eagle. Contestant #1 (far left) Patrick Langone will be in San Francisco in September to compete for the big one.

Marcus

Continued from previous page

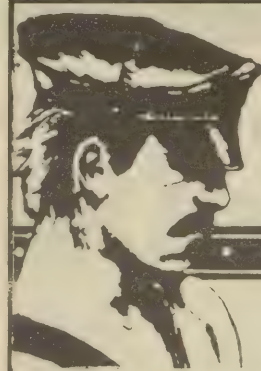
the Baltimore Eagle in Baltimore.

Mr. Northeast Drummer will be chosen in New York City the weekend of July 21-23; Mr. Rocky Mountain Drummer takes place at The Triangle bar in Denver on the weekend of July 28-30; Mr. Southern California Drummer contestants will compete at The Faultline Bar on Saturday, August 5.

Mr. Florida Drummer will be selected in Orlando, Florida the weekend of August 11-13, followed the next weekend by Northern California Drummer

in San Jose. The final regional Drummer contest will take place at The Ramrod in Boston on the weekend of September 1-3. And since there will be no organized sponsor/contest in the Northwest, it is possible that an invitational contestant will represent that region. Also, there will be a Mr. Australia Drummer here (from Melbourne) competing.

Remember, the International Mr. Drummer finals contest take place during Leather Pride Week in San Francisco. Besides a lot of other activities, the contest itself is Saturday afternoon (Sept. 23, 1500) at Pleasuredome. The next day is, of course, the Folsom Street Fair. Make your plans now! ▼



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Idiot Energy Informs Michael Nyman's *Noises, Sounds and Sweet Airs* Strike Up The Bland

by Chris Culwell

Michael Nyman is one of those composers whose music is hard to get excited about. Though featured to great effect in the uberfilms of Peter Greenaway, and more recently in Jane Campion's *The Piano*, Nyman's compositions, when considered independent of these works, are nearly devoid of that one ingredient essential to all good music: personality. Flacks and poseurs call this stuff minimalism, but unmemorable is a better appellation.

Sadly, Nyman's latest recorded endeavor, *Noises, Sounds and Sweet Airs*, a work for three singers and orchestra, is more of the same. Only this product is even more frustrating than usual, for peeking out from behind long stretches of the blandmeister's art are some truly outstanding passages that actually threaten to bloom into meaningful music. Had these brief instances been developed, woven, say, into a convincing musical pattern, *Noises, Sounds and Sweet Airs* might have amounted to something. But, alas, these fleeting manifestations are mere isolated events that never fulfill their purpose in

the work's overall scheme.

Nyman calls his work an opera, but *Noises, Sounds and Sweet Airs* began in 1991 as a ballet commission from French choreographer Karine Saporta, with whom Nyman worked on Greenaway's film *Prospero's Books*. Reportedly, Saporta was so enamored of Nyman's work on that project that she asked Mr. Minimal to compose a separate score for an original work based on Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. The result, *La Princesse du Milan*, is an opera-ballet in which the singers also dance. To facilitate this unwieldy arrangement, Shakespeare's text was edited (or demolished, depending on your point of view) to fit into the small space of the opera-ballet's 17 separate parts.

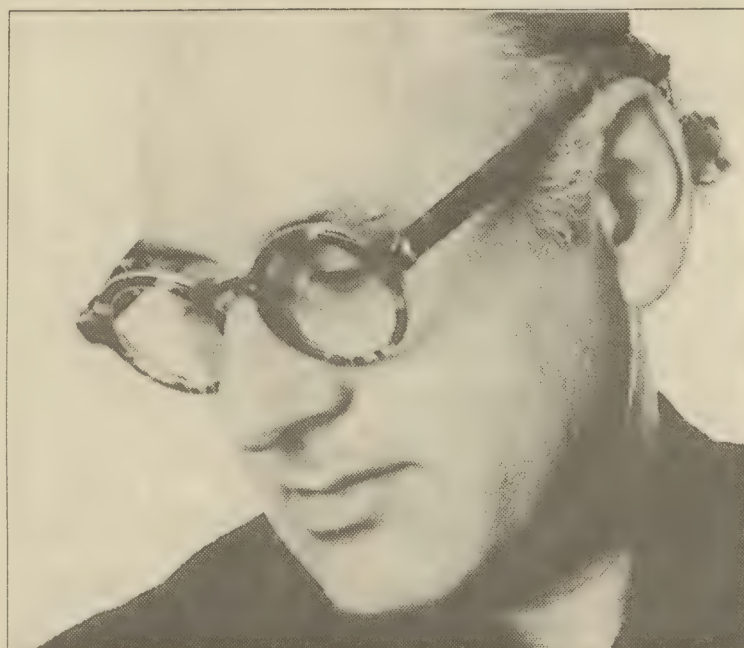
Noises, Sounds and Sweet Airs, the title recalling Caliban's curious description of the notorious island on which nobody is whom they seem, is a modified version of *La Princesse du Milan*, a one-hour and 20 minute work for orchestra and voices minus its dance part. As for Nyman's calling the work an opera, well, the text is sung to a musical accompaniment by people assuming identities other than their own, but the dramatic elements of *The Tempest* have

been so reduced to fit this format that the product lacks the cohesion, scale and dramatic momentum of opera.

Goopy mess

Nyman begins the work confidently, with a warm, romantic soliloquy for soprano (Catherine Bott) and orchestra, but three minutes into this plangent stretch of music, the composer takes a wrong turn into harmonic doldrums, dispensing too quickly with the lyrical tension stored up in the melody. A goopy mess of oompa-pa-ing saxophones, simplistic repeating string phrases, and shrieking clarinets, a collection of sounds too reminiscent of Philip Glass or Terry Riley to be coincidence, takes over for what seems an eternity. Or until Caliban's aria "The fringed curtains of thine eyes," where Nyman strikes a perfectly wonderful harmonic cadence.

But sure enough, as soon as this millimoment is over, it's off again into another endless banal stretch that goes on forever until "Riches, poverty and use of service," an elegant, syncopated duet for soprano Bott and tenor Ian Bostridge. The balance of *Noises, Sounds and Sweet Airs* rarely impresses, though the



Michael Nyman

end, which returns to the work's luminous first theme, is elegantly inflected.

The vocal work and orchestral playing of Ensemble Instrumental de Basse-Normandie is professional to say the least, though contralto Hilary Summers does something more akin to warbling than singing. The musicians

seem to be having a grand time with Nyman's hyperactive meter changes and flashy, endless runs. Their sense of abandon stems, no doubt, from the obvious fact that this is music they don't have to think deeply about to play. Which explains why the glee is so uninfected. It's not called idiot energy for nothing. ▼

BOOKS

Survival Tactics

Telling: Confessions, Concessions and Other Flashes of Light
by Marion Winik; Vintage Books, \$14.95

by Robin Sweeney

Marion Winik's book of essays, *Telling: Confessions, Concessions and Other Flashes of Light*, is like getting together for coffee with someone you haven't seen for a long time, that best friend from high school or college — the one you made while still doing lots of drugs and staying up late changing the world. Catching up with Winik's life is like finding out that all the crazy stuff that seems to happen only to you is still happening to your best friend from 10th grade.

Winik, a regular on National Public Radio's *All Things Considered*, is best known in the gay community for the essay she wrote on assisting her husband's suicide last year at the end of his struggle with AIDS. She writes honest commentary about AIDS and her life as a recovering IV drug user.

Her piece on visiting her brother-in-law, Steven, who is also a PWA, resonates across lines of gender and sexuality. Winik shows us herself wrestling with seeing for the last time someone (her grandmother) who is dying and shares, "I say prayers, I wish on stars and dandelions, and because I don't believe that prayers and wishes

alone will save all the people who face this merciless disease, I go to rallies, I write letters, and I give money. And every morning when I pick up the newspaper, I look for the headline I see in my dreams: AIDS CURE."

In "Some of My Best Friends," Winik demonstrates the kind of support for the gay community that all straight allies should show. "We are all supposedly entitled to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Many gay people now have one out of three, if they're lucky. We can do better than that."

She not only thinks gay men and lesbians are cool — always a plus — she also understands the plain old struggle that lots of sympathetic straight people just don't get.

Winik also writes very funny and accurate pieces on other, less tragic topics, like losing a purse, doing drugs and going out to breakfast with a spouse. Like a lot of us, she woke up one day to suddenly find she had become a grownup.

Whether or not she's really Donna Reed for the '90s, Marion Winik tells stories that make it clear that a great many of us survived similar hells to make it to today. It's good to have someone around who can remind us of this while being very funny, too. ▼

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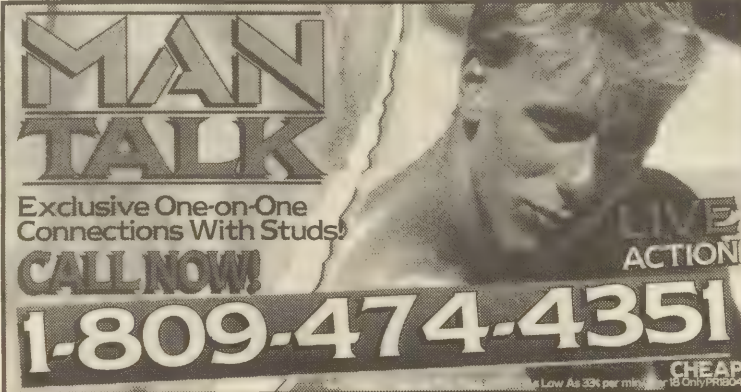


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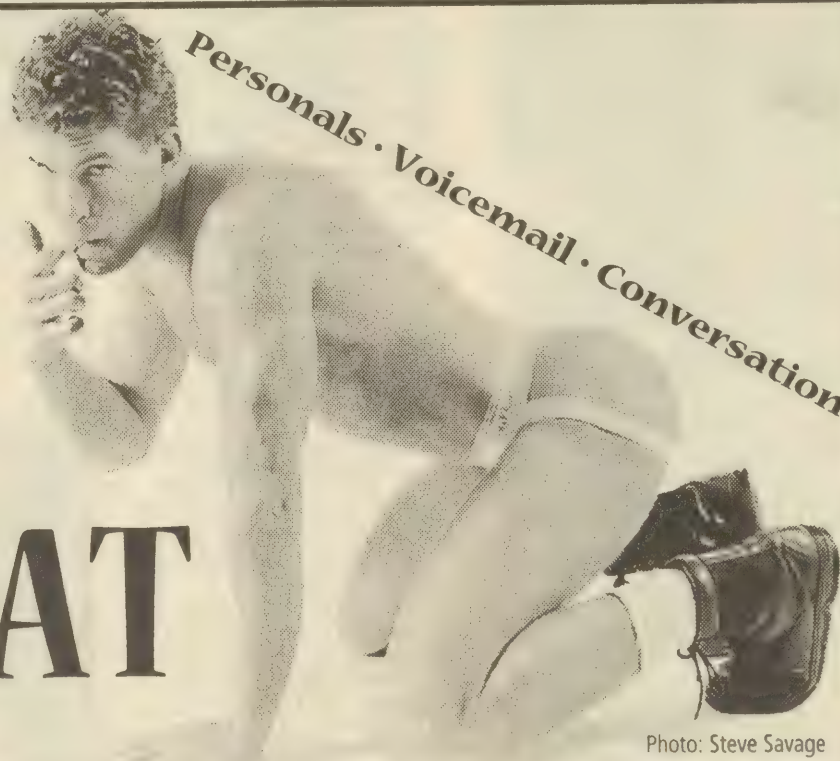
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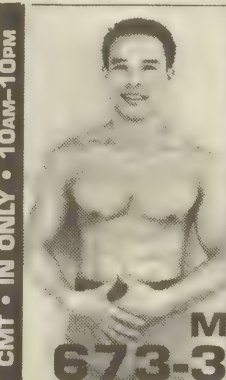
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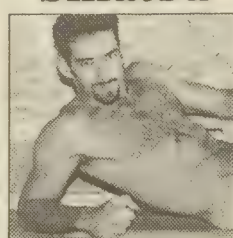
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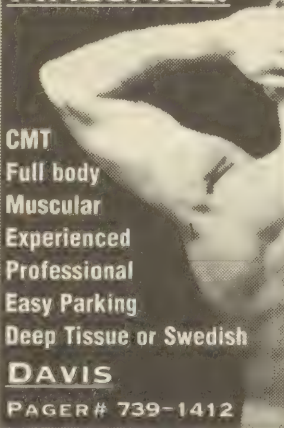
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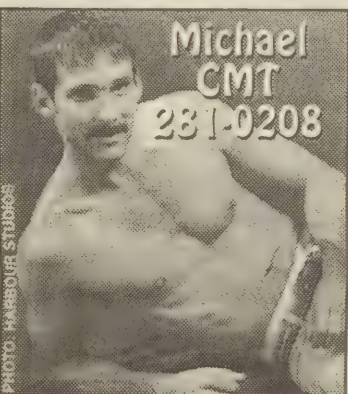
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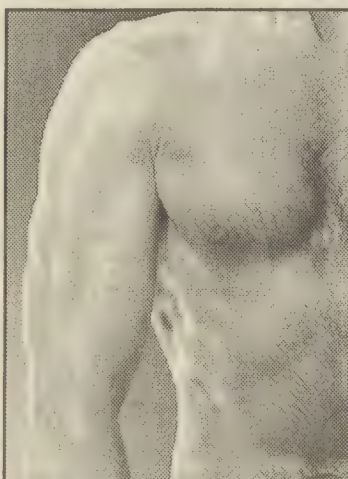
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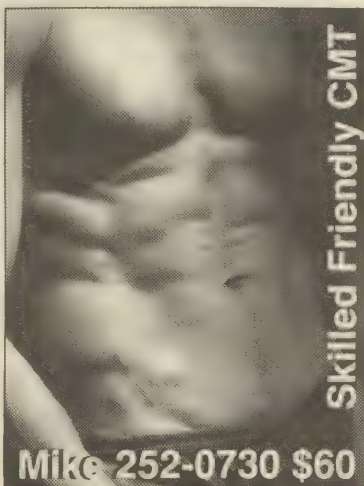


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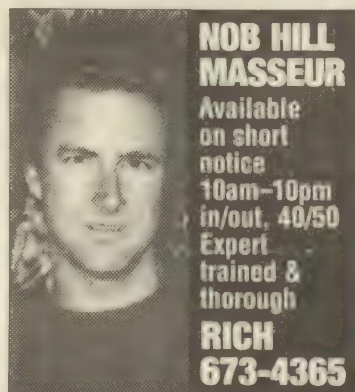


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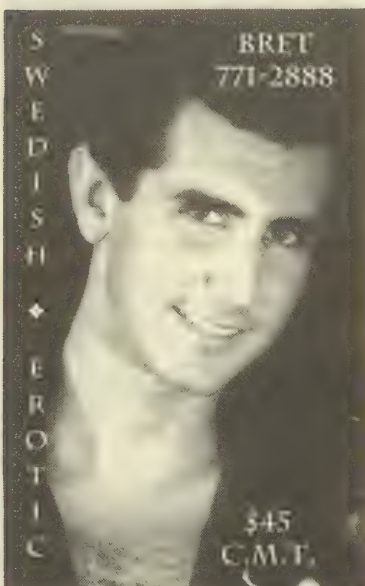
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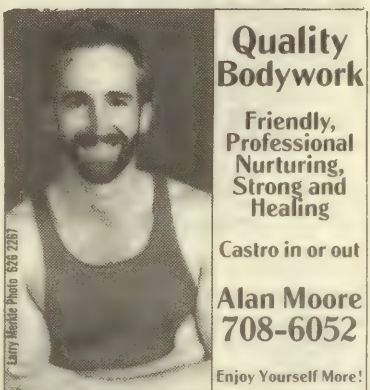
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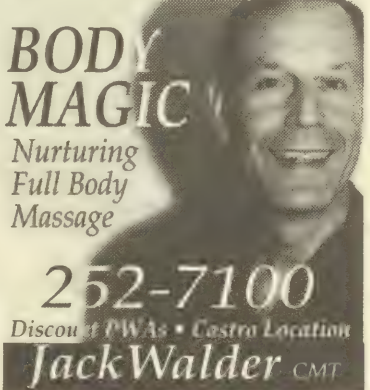
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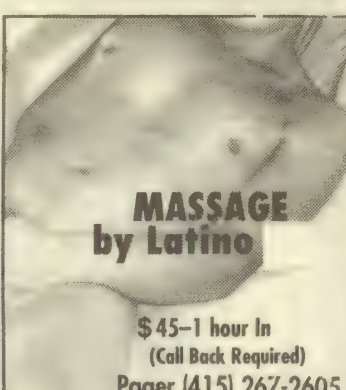
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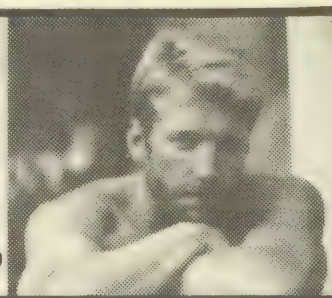
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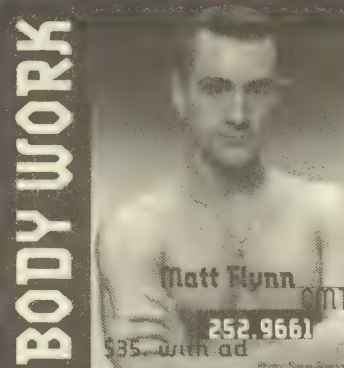
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23, 6 ft, 190#, Hot Looking

BLACK DREAM

Attractive, Well-Built Blk Friendly 8

1/2" Stud - Ben

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Sit Back & Enjoy The Show!

Rocky, 19, Smooth, Gym-Toned,

Attractive. Out Only. \$120

Also available for video work,

\$150 Up. * 280-8002

Extremely Good Looking

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JOE * (415) 709-7174

Hairy Muscle! * Elec. Pump!

VAC. PUMPER

(415) 864-0999 * Grow Huge!

Goodlooking, Nasty FF. 9"

Cut. 20, w/hangers. Enjoy. Take

Your Time. A Big Load Is Your

Reward! (415) 885-6530

Hunt, Masc. Top To Service

SOUTHERN BOY

25 yo, 6', 180, Handsome

Craig * (415) 267-0665

MAN WITH A FIST • TOYS

Give It Up To Nick • Nob Hill

I'm Great w/Beginners.885-1471



DAVID
 TALL
 HAIRY
 HUNG
863-4847



MAN to MAN
 TOTAL BODY RUB
 Rod 35 190 6'2"
\$25/hr 824-6590

**Erotic
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 24 HRS-in/out
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Erotic Full-Body Massage

By Warm, Slender, Nude

Versatile East Bay Guy

\$25 JIM (510) 527-2714



MASSAGE
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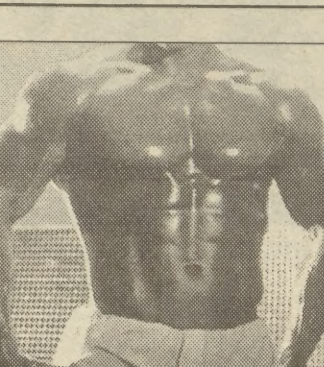
MODELS/ESCORTS

S/M SENSUALITY

-long, & slow- my specialty.
6'2", 185, strong, gymtuned
master into all aspects &
degrees of leatherplay.
S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunch.
Lord 431-0959

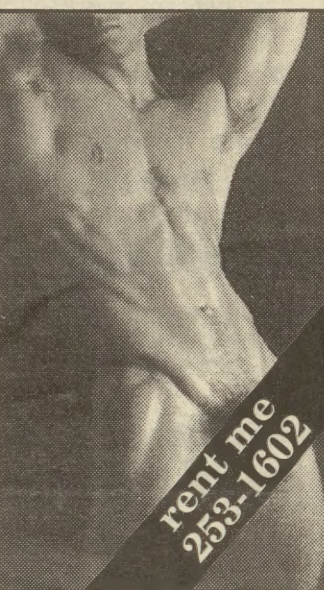
MANHOLE

5'5", Blond, Blue
Well Built, 9" Thick, Out Only
560-6636 pgr



CHAD

6', 195, Well-Endowed
Great Legs and Abs
(510) **526-6905**



You Hungry For Asian?
I'm Well Hung, Smooth & Hot!
Call Me: 605-0281. In & Out.

6'4" Built German Sex God TOPMAN UNCUT

Handsome, Masculine, & Hung
Big!! 200# of Muscle, Smooth
!Fun!! Page Doug: 202-6227

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Real B.B., Thick, Ripped!
Handsome, Hung 9". * 337-4364

STALLION

BR: 807-5690

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Husky Dad, 5'9", 190, 20 Yrs
FF Exp. \$70 * 861-2668 * Sling!

PLAY OFTEN?? PLAY SAFE!!

LEAN SICILIAN

25 yo Student, 5'8", 150 Lbs.
Tight Athletic Boy Ready
To Service You. 739-9652



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Handsome,
friendly,
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nextdoor,
student.

26
6.2
165
8 Cut
Brown
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Big hangers, Great Butt
6'2" Masculine Hairy Blond
Open 24 Hrs. 861-5827

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Gdlnkg, 6'1", 165 Lbs.

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\$60/\$80 JIM 267-1817

Private J/O Strip Show

Rates adjust to time.

10-15 Minutes: \$20 (In Only)

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30 Min. & Up: \$40 In/\$60 Out

Tall, Lean, Hung MATT 552-7224

Kicks Back For Service 24 Hrs.

10"X6" UNCUT

Big, Fat Tool 626-2692 Lv. Msg.

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3 Young, Cute Asians Want
To Snuggle With You. Call:
LON * 788-0380

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SOME, HORSE-HUNG,

6'3" 195 LBS., BR/BLU

BEEFY, LONG-LASTING STUD

DAVID * 863-4847

Foot Fetish Bpr 834-8170

6'2", 235 Lbs., Blk BB, Super

Safe Exhib Muscle Worship

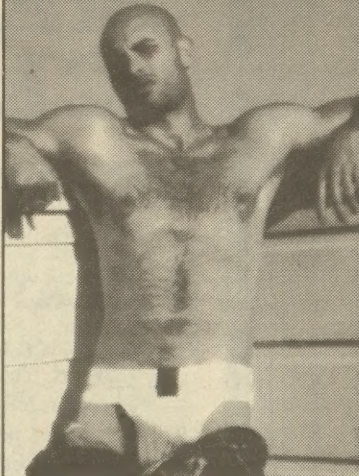
52" C, 21" A, Mega Dk

11X8" 863-4847

Or Dble Up With My Tall, Hry,

Hung, Buddie. Straight/Bi O.K.

LEX THE TOP 207-5231



HOT TEEN STUD

Gorgeous 18 yo Blonde Blue

Lean, Smooth, Well-Hung

70-100 Out Byron Pgr 245-4325

Friendly*Sexy*Versatile

EURASIAN BOY

29, 5'7", 140#, French/Japan

Hung Nice, Hot Ass, Wild!

Randy*Pager 709-2588 * \$100

Affectionate, Sexy, Hungry

Nice Guy, Nice Body

Fun and Versatile

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Beautiful 9"x 6 1/2" Gentle Black

27 y/o, 165 Lbs \$80 - \$100

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stuff your face!
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Hunky,Clean-Cut, Versatile

Hot Butt & Rod Lug Nuts

6'4", 195#, Blond/Blu Hairy

Tools and Toys. 24 Hours

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22yr Old Blk Stud

Good Old Fashioned Horse

Style Session Lean Hung

and Handsome.

Out Only Top \$60 CEDRIC

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PARTY GUY "9"

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RODEO COWBOY

5'9" 165 HOT PISTOL

A Handsome, Muscular

Masculine Man With A Soft

Southern Drawl & A Great Big

Gun Will Let U Take His Spurs

Off And Make Your Cowboy

Dreams Come True!

TRAVIS

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Very Handsome, Sexy Jewish
Gorgeous Butt, Eyes & Lips
Well-Equipped, 5'11", 165, 29 y/o
Mainly Top, but Versatile
Ron 560-0564 Page me twice pls

HUNG DAD!!

Masculine, Straight, Truly

Hung body builder. Out only!

Page (415) 907-4907 ROD

THE 9"X7" CLUB

Show & Tell - New Ad!!! Ready,

Hot, Sexy, Handsome Stud.

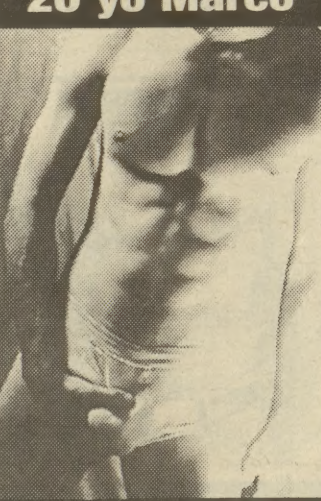
Experience the Total Package.

Nice Body & Great Personality.

Dominant Top. Available 24 Hrs.

TONY * (415) 861-SEXX * \$85

20 yo Marco



pgr 837-9456

IF YOU LIKE 'EM HUNG THEN I'M THE ONE!

Hot guy next door treats you right!
Br. hair, Br. eyed.
Horsehung Top Studpoker. 24 Hrs.
Buddy \$85 (415) 861-7399

EROTIC TEEN

Hot • Young • Sensuous
Uncut • 18 yo

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807 - 9822

RAFAEL

SAN FRANCISCO'S
FIRST CALLBEAR

708-BEAR
2 3 2 7

ENGLISH BOY

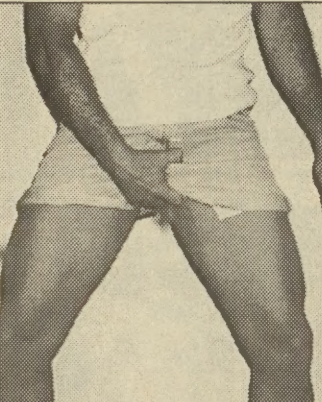
TAKES IT IN THE

S. BAY

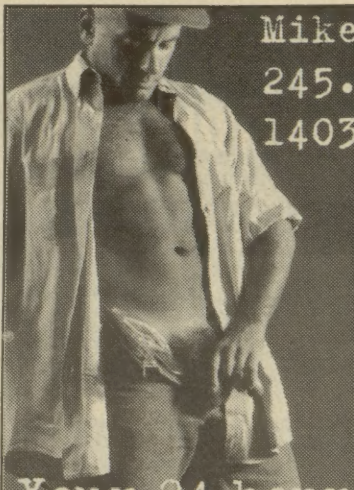
27yrs 5'7", 130lbs, Br, Haz,

Slim Muscular Bottom

MATTHEW (408) 271-7118

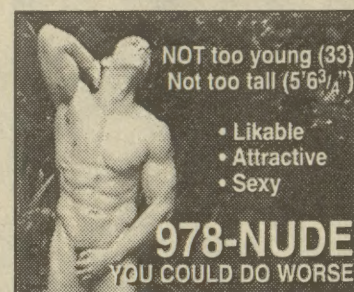


N.Y. MEAT
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Mike
245.
1403

Your 24 hour
DELIVERY MAN



NOT too young (33)
Not too tall (5'6 3/4")

- Likable
- Attractive
- Sexy

978-NUDE

YOU COULD DO WORSE

HOT & HUNKY

Extra Handsome, Clean Cut

All American Look

Dark Blond, Blue 5'10", 175#

Local Sacramento outcalls

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SOUTH BAY

35 yo, 6'2", 170, Brn/Brn

Hot, Hung, Masculine Man

To Satisfy Your Needs

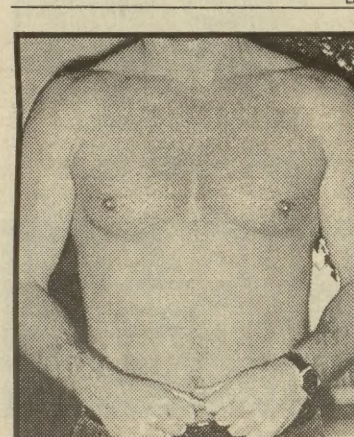
John (408) 379-4259. Out Only

EROTICA! 22 YR BOY TOY

Healthy & Fun offers massage,

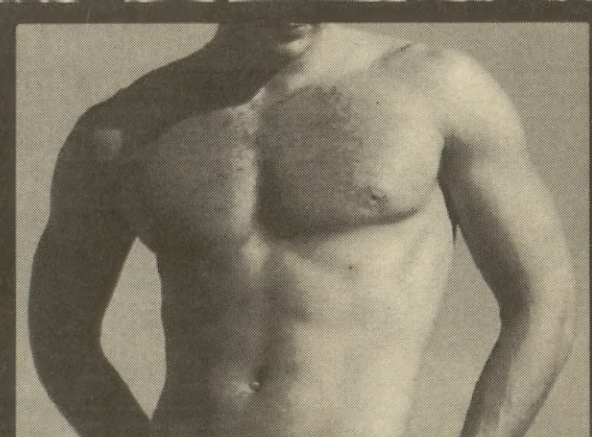
kink & escort! 24 Hrs. 487-7662

22, Blond Long Hair*522-1736



Cliff
Pgr. 270-4152

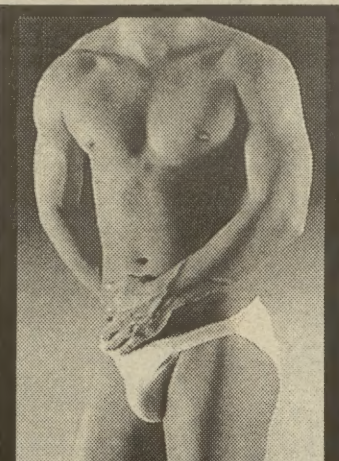
BOYS -2- MEN



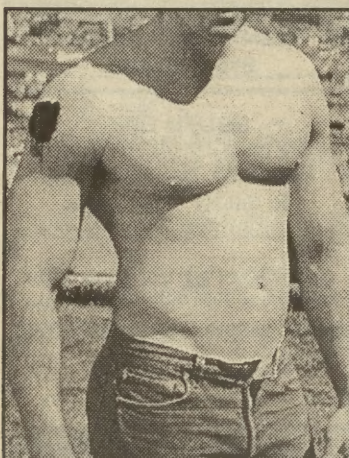
ESCORTS
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FAX PHOTOS AVAILABLE

MODELS/ESCORTS

Perfect Little
Bottom Boy
lean smooth & toned
cute boyish & blond
Kevin \$100
(415) 739-6145 pgr.

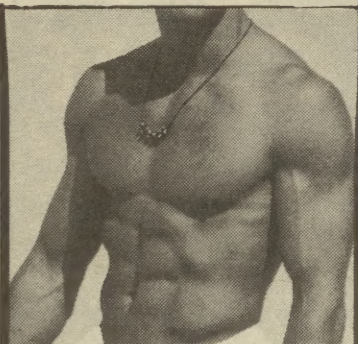


AFFECTIONATE, NICE PACKAGE
TIM 991-7907



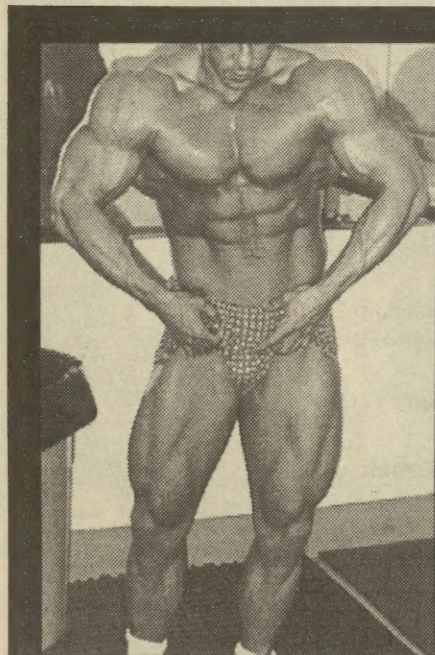
6'2", 220 lbs. Fierce Legs & Butt
Older Clients Welcome
Cory 560-5557

HUGE 9.5"
CUTE · VERBAL
BLOND · SWISS
BOYISH · YOUNG
415-995-1944



Beau 560-0056

BLOND HAIRY LEGS
Patrick 346-1061

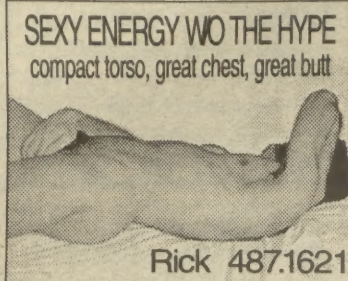


**Gorgeous Face
Horse Hung**

6'1" 240 lbs

Preparing for
Nationals

Tony
(510) 526-6905



SEXY ENERGY WO THE HYPE
compact torso, great chest, great butt

Rick 487.1621

**Hot 23 y/o
College Jock
Frat Boy**
Hot Body, Face
Hung, Top, 24 hrs.
Chase 863-1154

Video Star

Now in SF from LA
Extremely Handsome, Rugged
Very Muscular & Defined
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Michael, 6Ft, 225#, Bodybuilder
Dom., Into B/D, S/M, Fetishes
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Sexy*Hot*Swimmer's Build
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RAD SURF BOY

Beachboy Bubblebut blond
5'9" 140 Lbs, Long Curly
Blond Hair, Blue Eyes, Slim
And Fine, Oh So Fresh!
Page IAN at (415) 270-2548
SURF THAT!!



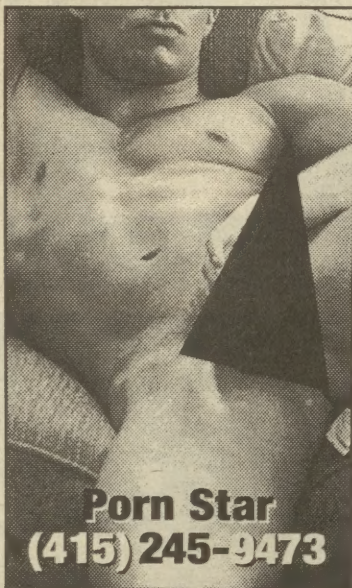
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POWERFUL New MASTER in Town
HOT, HAIRY, DOMINANT
Experienced, Most Scenes

Fully Stocked Private Playroom



TOM 487-1296



Porn Star
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Very Hung (also his litter
18 y/o cousin available)
Call Steve * (415) 333-4304

Thin, Boyish, Great
Looking and Yours!
INDULGE YOURSELF
\$85 • Pager: 923-7910

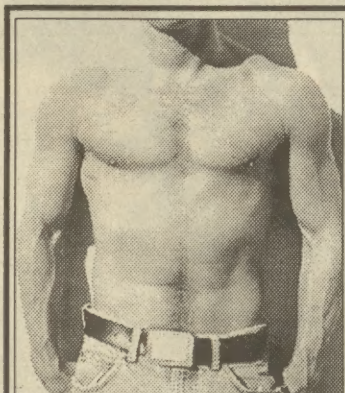
XXX-Ceptional Head. 708-3325

**TALL
HANDSOME
MUSCULAR
FRIENDLY**

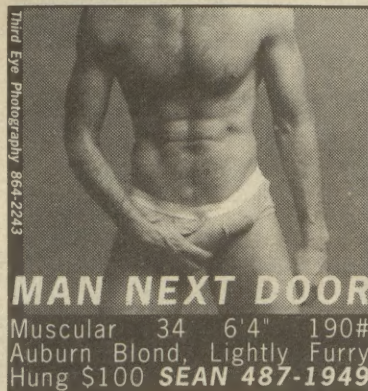
DEAN * 739-3716
6'5", 30, Brn/Grn, Lean, Fun, Tan
Masculine and Sincere

Asians Well Cum! 708-3325

18 YRS OLD JIMMY
Smits Latino Look-Alike \$100
Out Only. Will Leave You
Completely Satisfied or your
Money Back! * 280-5285



TRENT 469-6994



MAN NEXT DOOR

Muscular 34 6'4" 190#
Auburn Blond, Lightly Furry
Hung \$100 **SEAN 487-1949**

#1 IN S.F. #1

Hung Like A Horse. Laid Back
For Service. XX-Thick!!!
Friendly • Safe • Hndsm • Fun!
Nick \$85 • (415) 292-NICK

20 Y/O BRAZILIAN
5'6", 145 Lbs, 8X6"
Top/Out Only
TOM * 280-4199

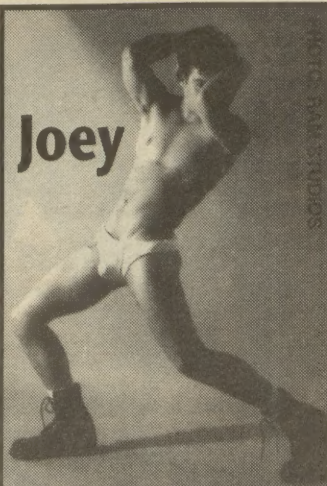
ITALIAN STUD - NEW AD!
Tight build, laid-back, lean,
smooth, masculine. Best of all ...
Hung!..Like a Stallion!
Mario * (415) 255-8677 * \$85

Porn Star, Hot Hawaiian-Jap
2 Rockhard, Smooth Globes
of Butt!! 28, 24 Hrs, 328-5304

PUNKBOY20YRS
10 Inches. Smooth. 605-5706

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Slim, Smooth, Obedient Boy
19, 5'6". Really cute toy
for men who love boys.
Pgr: 527-0083 \$150 - Out



Joey

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Marc
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20 Y/O ITALIAN BOY
Very Cute, Athletic
Hot Butt and Body
Pager: 837-9456

Potently Virile & Libinal 28 y/o,
Muscular, Defined, Smooth,
Strong and Handsome
A Pleasant Surprise
Jeff * 553-8804 * \$125

ITALIAN BODY

Body Builder, 230 Lbs.
6'1", 50" Ch, 20" A
25 Years Old
From Italy
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KURT

6 ft 180 Br/Br 28 Yr
Lightly Hairy Chest

BIG MAN ON CAMPUS

BRENT

Classic good looks.
The quiet capable type.
Well-versed, energetic,
and dedicated to your
fantasy; This 6'8" tall,
37 y.o. kid sports
size 15 sneakers
and a bountiful basket
of goods. Brown hair,
big biceps, green eyes
& a sensual moustache
belies the little boy
inside. Wanna play??

280-0019

\$150/hr call back required.

Blonde*Blu Eyes*5'7"*150 Lbs*
24 yo*Tight*Versatile*Australian
Mate • 698-0977

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DEEP WELLS
WELL DRILLED**
Sure to produce a GUSHER!
8 1/2" Thick.
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MEN'S
CLUB**

Exclusive Male Escorts

FEATURING:

CHRISTIAN
Sweet, Young Eurasian,
Only 18!

BRIAN
All-American Blonde
21, Size 10"

JAKE
Absolutly Perfect—GG!
22, 5'11", 180, Brn, Hazel

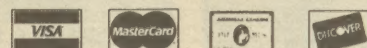
TYLER
All American Pretty Boy
21, 5'11", 170, Brn, Brn

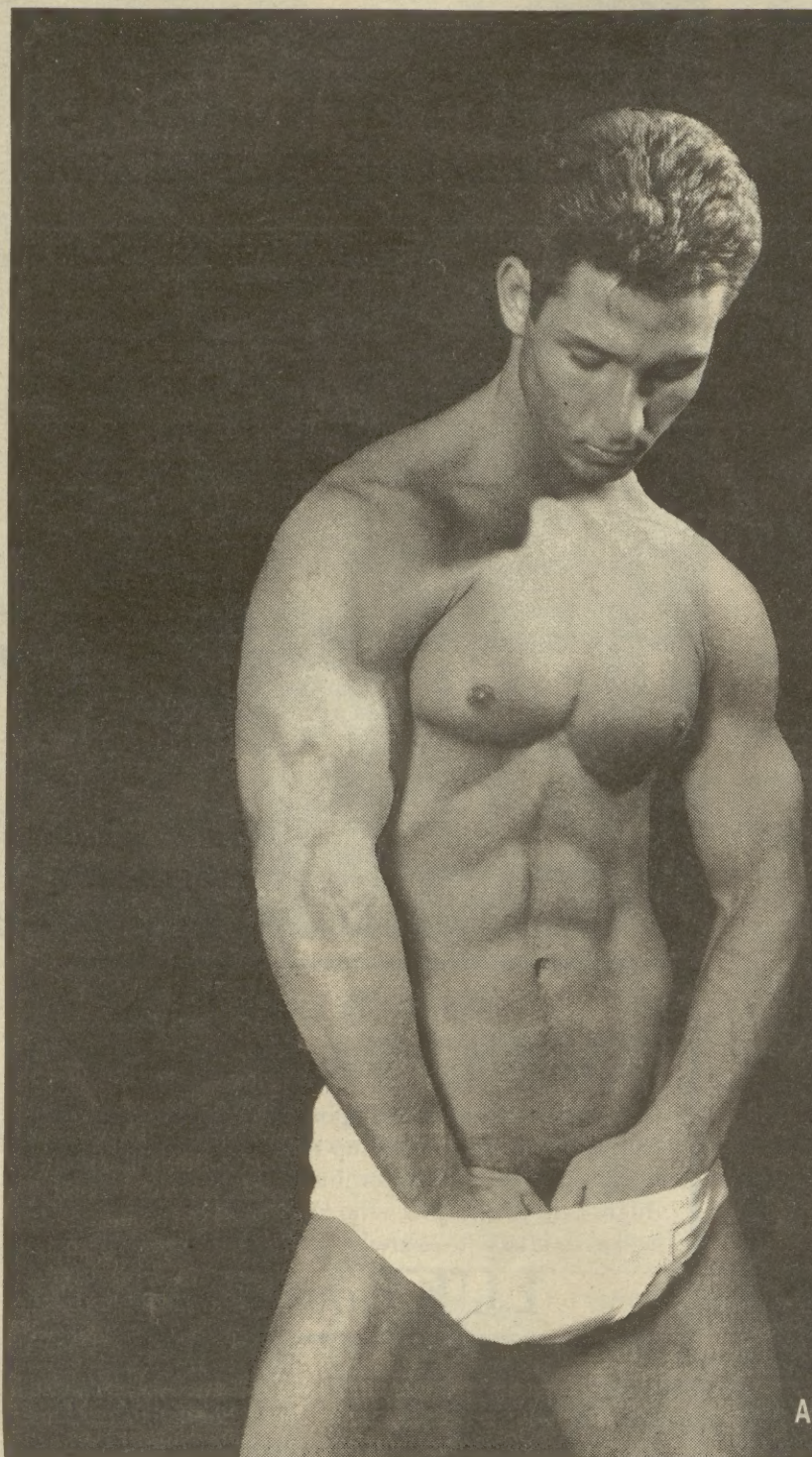
SEAN
Tall, Handsome, Nordic God, Size 8"

GLEN
Rugged, Handsome, All-American,
6'3", 200 lbs., 25

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Hours: 10 am to 4 am





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